NEMSIS TAC Whitepaper

NEMSIS V3 Suggested List – eSituation.10 Other Associated Symptoms

Date
November 17, 2011 (FINAL)
December 05, 2011 (Updated-FINAL)
June 04, 2012 (Updated Pattern-FINAL)
May 09, 2013 (Updated List-FINAL)
June 5, 2013 (Updated table with explanation) – removed February 2016
March 5, 2014 (Three New values added: one R code and two Z codes)
February 08, 2016 (Updated introduction, revised suggested list, and graphic example)

Authors
NASEMSO Data Managers Council
Karen E. Jacobson – Director, NEMSIS TAC
Lana Moser – Information Coordinator, NEMSIS TAC
Keith R. Davis – NEMSIS Data Architect
N. Clay Mann – NEMSIS TAC P.I.

Introduction
The Other Associated Symptoms suggested list has been updated to employ a two-tier choice hierarchy in an effort to make identifying and selecting an appropriate value easier for EMS personnel. The first tier represents a generic other associated symptom type. The second tier represents a specific symptom within the generic other associated symptom hierarchy. Thus, EMS software implementing this list may provide an interface that first allows EMS personnel to choose a generic other associated symptom type, and then a group of more specific symptoms within that generic other associated symptom type are provided to make the final value choice(s).

eSituation.10 - Other Associated Symptoms
The overall code list associated with eSituation.10 (Other Associated Symptoms) represents a range of values found in the 10th revision of the International Classification of Diseases – Clinical Modification (CD-10-CM). The process for gaining access to the ICD-10 CM code values is provided below.

Suggested List
The suggested list can be access from the NEMSIS TAC website on the Version 3 Resources page: https://www.nemsis.org/v3/resources.html. The suggested code range for eSituation.10 (Other Associated Symptoms) is drawn from ICD-10-CM. Signs and Symptoms are contained throughout the ICD-10-CM list. The primary documentation for symptom should be based on the “general” list of R Codes.
The acceptable ICD-10-CM code ranges for Symptoms include:

- Symptoms, Signs and Ill-defined and Unknown Cause of Mortality (R00.0-R69, R73.9, and R99)
- A-Q, S, T, and Z.

The other ICD-10-CM R codes, not listed in the range above, will not be utilized in the NEMSIS Version 3 dataset as they do not pertain to EMS in the traditional pre-hospital (911) environment.

**Licensed “Code Lists”**

The U.S. National Library of Medicine provides access to the ICD-10 code values through the Unified Medical Language System (UMLS). An applicant must accept the terms of the UMLS Metathesaurus License and create a UMLS Terminology Services (UTS) account for access to UMLS datasets and terminology browsers. More information can be found at: [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/umls.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/databases/umls.html).

The NEMSIS TAC may only distribute suggested lists with specific value codes from the UMLS system to entities licensed through the UMLS system. Thus, each software developer must seek licensing and provide proof of licensing before gaining access to all of the pre-defined suggested lists available through the NEMSIS TAC.

**Hierarchy Tier Graphic Example**

EMS personnel may first choose “Pain” or “Respiratory” within the first tier of Other Associated Symptoms to document the generic symptom type. Multiple second tier choices may appear to choose from. Within the generic “Pain” hierarchy, second tier value choices may include “Back”, “Chest (Cardiac)”, and “Chest, on breathing”. For the “Respiratory” generic symptom, second tier value choices may include “Dyspnea”, “Shortness of Breath”, or “Wheezing”.

![Hierarchy Tier Graphic Example](image)