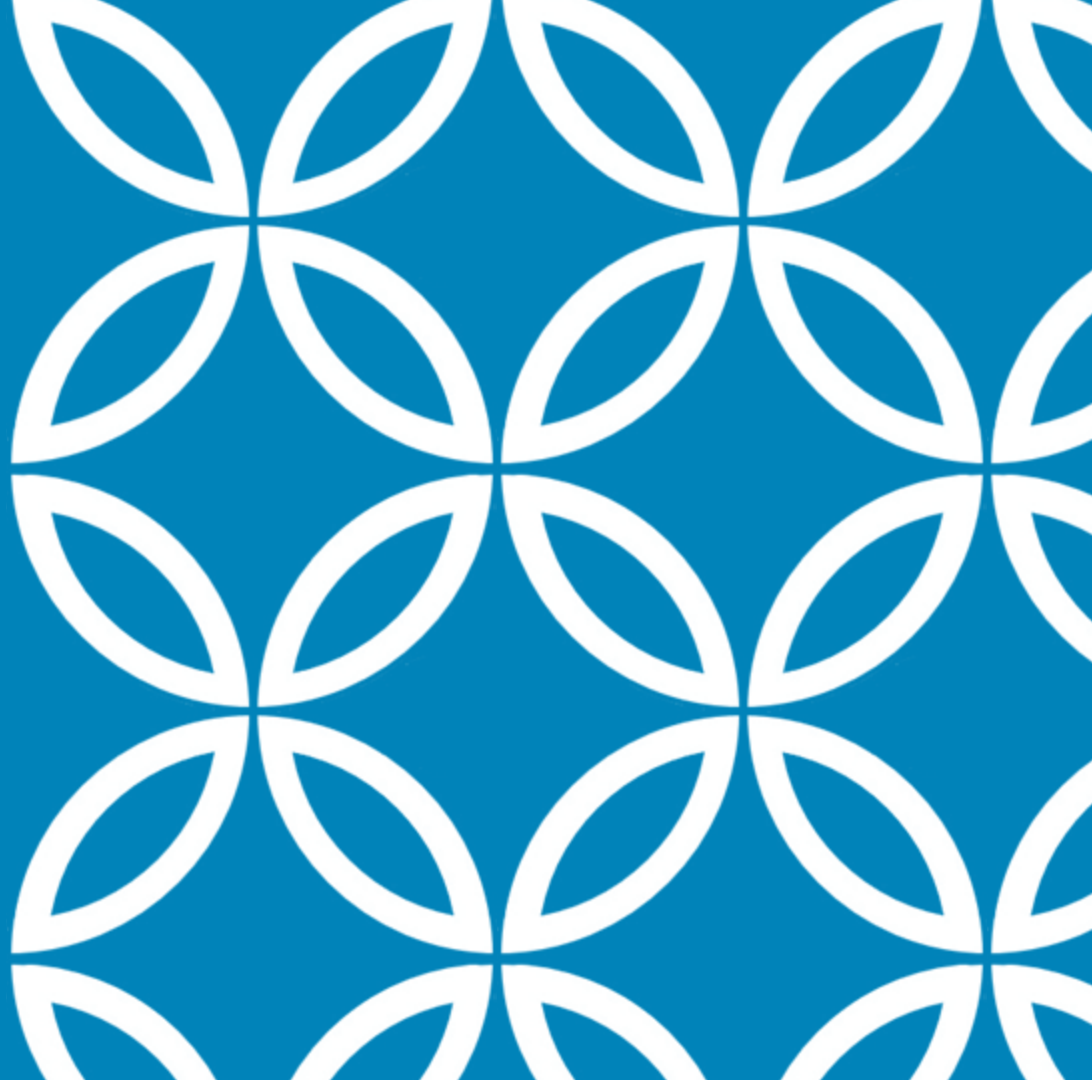


EVALUATION &  
MANAGEMENT  
DOCUMENTATION  
EDUCATION:  
AMBULATORY FOCUS

What is in the  
PROBLEM  
element?



# Medical Decision Making (MDM) Elements

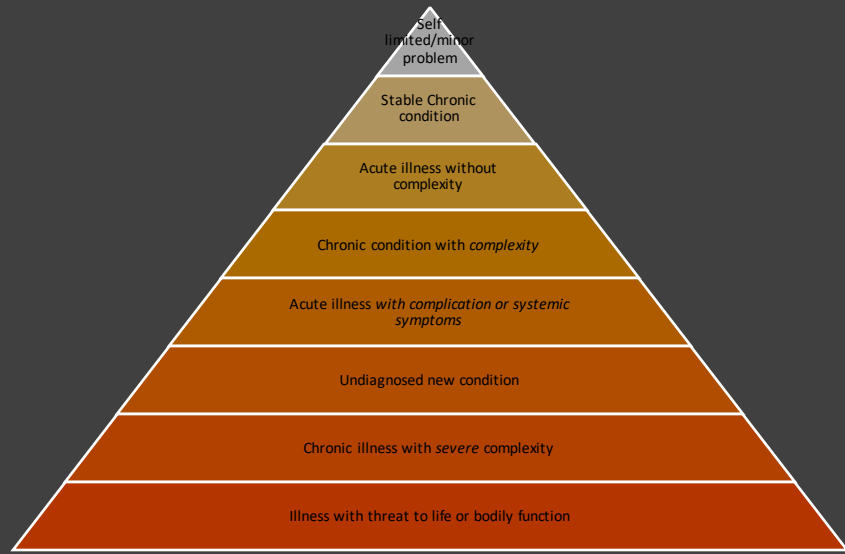
2 of 3 of these elements must be met for the given level!

MDM Level	1. Number and complexity of problems addressed	2. Amount/ complexity of data reviewed	3. Risk	As seen in
Straightforward	Straightforward	Minimal	Minimal	New Patient Level 2 - 99202 Established patient level 2 – 99212
Low complexity	Low/uncomplicated	Limited	Low	New Patient Level 3 - 99203 Established patient level 3 – 99213
Moderate complexity	Moderate/complicated	Moderate	Moderate	New Patient Level 4 - 99204 Established patient level 4 - 99214
High complexity	Severe/threat to life or function	Extensive	High	New Patient Level 5 - 99205 Established patient level 5 - 99215

# Medical Decision Making Documentation Tips

- **This is the clinical purpose of the note: *You need to articulate your assessment and care plan for the problem.***
- Beyond supporting level of service, this serves to further care of the patient, aid communication amongst care team members, and invite patient involvement in care plan, as well as medicolegal considerations.

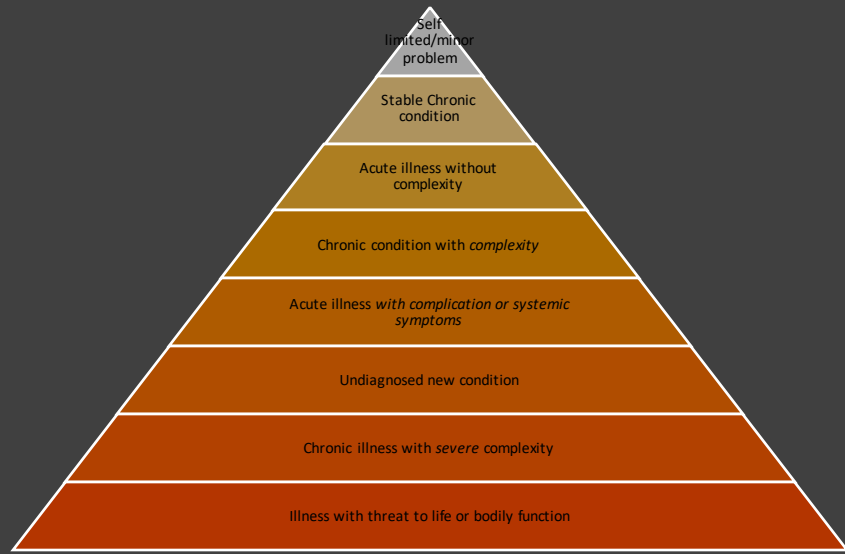




Zoom in: What are these categories?

Buzz words

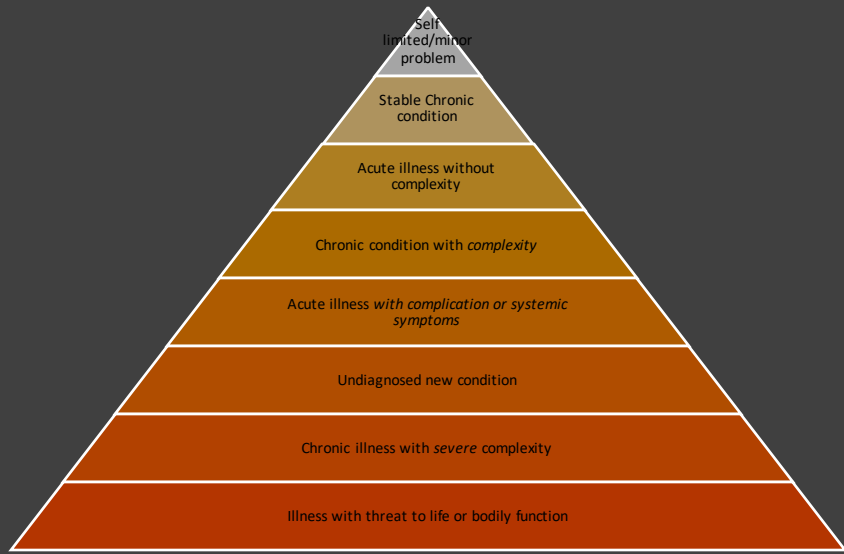
- Acute illness/injury without complexity: Low risk of morbidity with full recovery expected though requiring prescribed treatment course
  - Ex. Acute cystitis, simple sprain, allergic rhinitis
- Acute illness with systemic symptoms: **High risk of morbidity without treatment**; systemic symptoms could be related to a single system rather than generalized
  - Ex. Pyelonephritis
- Acute injury with complication: Requires **evaluation** of body systems not directly related to the injury, injury is extensive, **treatment is multiple or with high risk of morbidity**
  - Ex. Head injury with brief loss of consciousness; fall with wrist injury requiring xray, splinting, and referral to orthopedic surgery



Zoom in: What are these categories?

Buzz words

- Stable chronic condition
  - Ex. Diabetes assessed at this visit and found to be at goal with no changes in therapy recommended
- Chronic condition with complexity: **Exacerbation, progression, or side effectives of treatment**
  - Ex. HLD with myositis in need of treatment alternatives; HTN or DM2 not at goal needing additional meds
- Chronic illness with severe complexity: **Severe** exacerbation, progression, or side effectives of treatment
  - Ex. CHF exacerbation severe enough to recommend hospitalization; immunomodulatory therapy with resultant neutropenia, progressive severe rheumatoid arthritis



Zoom in: What are these categories?

Buzz words

- Self-limited or minor: Will tend to resolve itself in time
  - Ex. Rash, URI
- Undiagnosed new problem: Needing further work up but no definitive diagnosis as yet **but risk of morbidity** without evaluation and treatment
  - Ex. Lump in the breast
- Illness (acute or chronic) with threat to life or bodily function
  - Ex. Sepsis with recommendation for hospitalization, acute myocardial infarction, psychiatric illness with threat to self or others, acute renal failure, abrupt change in neurologic status

Status of condition: Exacerbated or progressed

Status of condition: acute or chronic (*previously new or established*)

Multiple treatment options

Requires additional evaluation

Side effects from treatment

Risks or morbidity without treatment or from treatment itself

Severe exacerbation

Threat to life or bodily function

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**TAKE HOMES:**

# Element 1 of MDM: Diagnosis/Treatment Options

MDM Level	1. Number and complexity of problems addressed	As seen in
Straightforward	1 self limited/minor problem	New Patient Level 2 - 99202 Established patient level 2 – 99212
Low complexity	2+ self limited/minor problem <b>OR</b> 1 stable chronic <b>OR</b> 1 acute illness without complexity	New Patient Level 3 - 99203 Established patient level 3 – 99213
Moderate complexity	2+ stable chronic <b>OR</b> Chronic condition with <i>complexity</i> <b>OR</b> Acute illness with <i>systemic symptoms or complication</i> <b>OR</b> <i>Undiagnosed</i> new problem	New Patient Level 4 - 99204 Established patient level 4 - 99214
High complexity	1+ chronic with <i>severe complexity</i> Any illness with threat to life or bodily function	New Patient Level 5 - 99205 Established patient level 5 - 99215