

MEAT (Monitor, Evaluate, Assess, Treat) Documentation Quick Guide

M = Monitor/manage

- Order tests
- Document signs and symptoms
- · Track disease progression/regression

E = Evaluate

- Examine (as in the physical exam)
- Reference lab results
- Evaluate response to treatment
- Track effectiveness of medications

A = Assess/address

- Document all conditions that affect patient care treatment or management
- Give current status of condition
- Provide level/severity of a condition
- Provide counseling

T = Treat

- Prescribe medication
- Provide surgical/other therapeutic intervention
- Refer to specialists for treatment/consult
- Devise plan for management of condition

NOTE: "MEAT" is a mnemonic tool to assist health care providers with documentation of supportive evidence for ongoing clinical conditions.





MEAT Documentation Examples

Example 1: COPD

- M = Schedule pulmonary function test
- E = Exacerbation lungs with bilateral wheezes
- A = Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with acute bronchitis
- T = Given prescription for Levaquin

Example 2: Congestive Heart Failure

- M = Repeat echocardiogram shows improved ejection fraction
- E = No finding of CHF exacerbation; lungs clear to auscultation and no peripheral edema noted on new diuretic
- A = Stable on Coreg
- T = Continue Coreg and keep routine cardiology follow-up appointment next week

Example 3: Crohn's Disease

- M = Patient denies current symptoms
- E = Despite treatment, patient has lost 8 pounds in three months and new anemia
- A = End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) requiring dialysis
- T = Will increase infliximab dosing

