



**AAVBC**

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF VALUE BASED CARE

# **Colorectal Cancer**

## **Quick Reference Guide**

2026

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# 1 CLINICAL SNAPSHOT

**Definition:** Colorectal cancer (CRC) is a malignant neoplasm arising from the epithelial lining of the colon or rectum, generally progressing through an **adenoma-carcinoma sequence** over 10-15 years. Approximately 95% are adenocarcinomas. Diagnosis is confirmed by colonoscopy with biopsy; staging uses the **AJCC 8th Edition TNM system**. All newly diagnosed CRC should undergo universal **MMR/MSI testing** and **DPYD pharmacogenomic testing** before fluoropyrimidine use.<sup>1,2</sup>

**ICD-10 Codes:** **C18.0-C18.9** (colon by anatomic site; avoid C18.9 unspecified) · **C19** (rectosigmoid junction) · **C20** (rectum) · **C78.7** (liver metastasis) · **C78.0x** (lung metastasis) · **C79.51** (bone metastasis) · **C78.6** (peritoneal metastasis). **Z85.038/Z85.048** (personal history after confirmed treatment completion with NED). **Z93.3/Z93.4** (colostomy/ileostomy status → HCC 463). **G62.0** (oxaliplatin neuropathy). Active disease during surveillance = C18.x, **not Z85.x**.<sup>3,4</sup>

## HCC/RAF V28 Mapping

ICD-10 CODE <sup>3,4</sup>	HCC CATEGORY	RAF WEIGHT	DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENT
<b>C18.0-C18.8, C19, C20 (Active CRC; Primary)</b>	HCC 22	0.363	<b>Site-specific code required.</b> C18.9 (unspecified) acceptable only if anatomy is <b>genuinely unknown</b> . Applies during active treatment AND surveillance
<b>C78.x (Secondary; Liver/Lung/ Peritoneum)</b>	HCC 17	4.209	Code each active metastatic site <b>separately</b> . C78.7 = liver; C78.0x = lung; C78.6 = peritoneum. Each contributes independently
<b>C79.51 (Secondary; Bone)</b>	HCC 18	2.341	Document bone metastasis with active management evidence (pain, imaging, bisphosphonates). Code alongside primary malignancy
<b>Z93.2/Z93.3 (Ileostomy/ Colostomy)</b>	HCC 463	0.673	Document as active condition at every visit, not as a resolved historical finding. Include in problem list and MEAT
<b>Z85.038/Z85.048 (Personal History — NED)</b>	None	—	Use <b>ONLY</b> after oncology confirms treatment complete with no evidence of disease. Transition from C18.x is clinically significant

ABBREVIATIONS: CRC = colorectal cancer; HCC = hierarchical condition category; NED = no evidence of disease; RAF = risk adjustment factor; TNM = tumor-node-metastasis; RAF values represent the Community Non-Dual Eligible Aged (CNA) coefficient from the 2024 CMS-HCC model; values vary across patient populations based on eligibility and care setting

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