

► Elements of Medical Decision Making

Level of MDM (Based on 2 out of 3 Elements of MDM)	Number and Complexity of Problems Addressed at the Encounter	Amount and/or Complexity of Data to Be Reviewed and Analyzed <i>*Each unique test, order, or document contributes to the combination of 2 or combination of 3 in Category 1 below.</i>	Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management
Straightforward	Minimal ■ 1 self-limited or minor problem	Minimal or none	Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
		99202 15 minutes 99212 10 minutes	
Low	Low ■ 2 or more self-limited or minor problems; or ■ 1 stable, chronic illness; or ■ 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury; or ■ 1 stable, acute illness; or ■ 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury requiring hospital inpatient or observation level of care	Limited <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 1 out of 2 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests and documents ■ Any combination of 2 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • Review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • Ordering of each unique test* or Category 2: Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) <i>(For the categories of independent interpretation of tests and discussion of management or test interpretation, see moderate or high)</i>	Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
			99203 30 minutes 99213 20 minutes
Moderate	Moderate ■ 1 or more chronic illnesses with exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; or ■ 2 or more stable, chronic illnesses; or ■ 1 undiagnosed new problem with uncertain prognosis; or ■ 1 acute illness with systemic symptoms; or ■ 1 acute, complicated injury	Moderate <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 1 out of 3 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s) ■ Any combination of 3 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • Review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • Ordering of each unique test*; • Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) or Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests ■ Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other qualified health care professional (not separately reported); or Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation ■ Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other qualified health care professional/appropriate source (not separately reported)	Moderate risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment <i>Examples only:</i> ■ Prescription drug management ■ Decision regarding minor surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors ■ Decision regarding elective major surgery without identified patient or procedure risk factors ■ Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health
			99204 45 minutes 99214 30 minutes
High	High ■ 1 or more chronic illnesses with severe exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; or ■ 1 acute or chronic illness or injury that poses a threat to life or bodily function	Extensive <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 2 out of 3 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s) ■ Any combination of 3 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • Review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • Ordering of each unique test*; • Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) or Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests ■ Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other qualified health care professional (not separately reported); or Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation ■ Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other qualified health care professional/appropriate source (not separately reported)	High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment <i>Examples only:</i> ■ Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity ■ Decision regarding elective major surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors ■ Decision regarding emergency major surgery ■ Decision regarding hospitalization or escalation of hospital-level care ■ Decision not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis ■ Decision regarding parenteral controlled substances ◀
			99205 60 minutes 99215 40 minutes

99211 Time not applicable

99202 15 minutes
99212 10 minutes

99203 30 minutes
99213 20 minutes

99204 45 minutes
99214 30 minutes

99205 60 minutes
99215 40 minutes