



**COLORADO**

**Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing**

Department of Health Care Policy & Financing  
1570 Grant Street  
Denver, CO 80203

October 20, 2016

DAL# P102016TC

Effective Date: October 20, 2016

Expiration Date: October 19, 2019

**Subject:** Alternative Coding Options for the ICD-10 Conversion from the ICD-9 Diagnostic Code for "311, Depression Not Otherwise Specified (NOS)"

Dear Administrator/Coordinator:

**Please distribute this letter to staff who are involved with nursing home admissions or the Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) in your facility.**

A letter was sent out April 1, 2016 stating that on October 1, 2015, the use of the DSM-5 and ICD-10 was initiated nation-wide for common billing practices. This required a "crosswalk" from previous nomenclature, the DSM-4TR and the ICD-9. A complicating translation from the DSM-5 to the ICD-10 occurred with the diagnosis of "311, Depression NOS" becoming "F32.9, Major Depressive Disorder, Single episode, Unspecified," turning a non-major mental illness into coding for a major mental illness, affecting a range of individuals and facilities.

At that time, Nursing Facility Administrators were informed that a code of "F32.8, Other Depressive Episodes" would be an appropriate alternative diagnosis to the "F32.9, Major Depressive Disorder Single episode, Unspecified" diagnosis, avoiding a Major Mental Illness trigger on the Level I Evaluation. **"F32.8, Other Depressive Episodes" can no longer be used effective October 1, 2016.**

The instructions for residents diagnosed with "Depression NOS" listed on the previous letter will still need to be followed. However, some alternative diagnoses may be appropriate for those previously diagnosed with "Depression NOS". Which diagnosis is appropriate will need to be determined by the appropriate diagnosing physician. Here is a list of alternative diagnoses:

- a. **F32.89 Other Specified Depressive Episodes (This code replaces F32.8, Other Depressive Episodes.)**
- b. An individual may be diagnosed with an Adjustment Disorder (i.e. F43.20 Adjustment Disorder, Unspecified; F43.22 Adjustment Disorder with Anxiety; F43.21 Adjustment Disorder with Depressed Mood; etc.). If a

Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.  
[www.colorado.gov/hcpf](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf)



## Nursing Facility Administrator Page 2

diagnosis of any adjustment disorder is given, the individual and the diagnosis MUST be reassessed within (if not before) six months. At the end of the six-month period, if the adjustment disorder diagnosis is not resolved, another diagnosis must be given (i.e. any major depressive disorder diagnosis, bereavement, etc.).

- c. F06.31 Mood Disorder Due to Known Physiological Condition with Depressive Features (list the physiological condition).
- d. F06.30 Mood Disorder Due to Known Physiological Condition, Unspecified (list the physiological condition).

For any questions concerning this process, please contact Becky Huckaby Raphaelson, Interim OBRA-PASSR Manager, by phone at 303-866-7414 or by email at [rebecca.huckabyraphaelson@state.co.us](mailto:rebecca.huckabyraphaelson@state.co.us).

Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.

[www.colorado.gov/hcpf](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf)

