Since October 1, 2015, the official coding system in the United States has been the International 
Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM). ICD-10-CM is a version of 
the World Health Organization’s ICD-10 that has been modified for clinical use by the Centers for 
Disease Control and Prevention’s National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and provides the only 
permissible diagnostic codes for mental disorders for clinical use in the United States.

The codes that appear in DSM are the ICD codes that are equivalent to the DSM diagnoses. In DSM-5 
both ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes were included, given that at the time of DSM-5 release the ICD-9-CM 
system was still in use in the United States. DSM-5-TR will, however, include only ICD-10-CM codes 
since they are the only official coding system in the United States at this time.

Most disorders in DSM-5-TR have an alphanumeric ICD-10-CM code that appears preceding the name 
of the disorder (or coded subtype or specifier). The text sections “recording procedures” or “coding 
notes” describe the appropriate coding procedure for the DSM diagnoses.

The use of diagnostic codes is fundamental to medical record keeping. It facilitates data collection and 
retrieval and compilation of statistical information.

DSM is the manual used by clinicians and researchers to diagnose and classify mental disorders. The American Psychiatric 
Association (APA) will publish DSM-5-TR in 2022.

APA is a national medical specialty society whose more than 37,400 physician members specialize in the diagnosis, 
treatment, prevention, and research of mental illnesses, including substance use disorders. Visit the APA at 
www.psychiatry.org. For more information, please contact APA Communications at 202-459-9732 or press@psych.org.

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