

# East Jefferson General Hospital

## Documentation Tips: ATRIAL FIBRILLATION

November 2019

### NEW FOR OCTOBER 1, 2019

CMS HAS ADDED NEW DIAGNOSES CODES FOR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION (AF)

*Please specify type of ATRIAL FIBRILLATION you are treating so that we can assign the most accurate diagnosis code and you get credit for treating a more complex patient.*

### ATRIAL FIBRILLATION DEFINITIONS

**Persistent AF (CC):** Symptoms last longer than 7 days. Treatment includes medication, possible electrical conversion and surgical intervention

**Long Standing Persistent AFM (CC):** Lasts longer than a year and consistent. Medication and electrical cardioversion do not normally resolve.

**Permanent (Chronic) Atrial Fibrillation (CC):** This cannot be corrected by treatment, but can be controlled with medication

**Paroxysmal (PAF):** terminates spontaneously or with intervention in less than seven days

#### BE SURE TO DOCUMENT:

- Specified diagnosis of Persistent, Permanent or Paroxysmal AFIB before using the abbreviation PAF
- AF WITH Rapid Ventricular Response (RVR) if appropriate based on clinical indicators
- Specify **UNDERLYING CAUSE** of dysrhythmias, i.e. medications, electrolyte imbalance, etc.
- **"POSTOP AF"** only document if truly a complication of a procedure

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