

# Problem List Calculator

## Inpatient Providers



### Introduction to Problem List Calculator

The Problem List Calculator is a new feature in Epic that will help providers include better specificity for ICD-10 documentation compliance. There are thousands of new terms in ICD-10, and the Problem List Calculator can help find the “best term.” However, this is “buyer beware” tool, so use your best judgement if there is a better fit with an alternative term.

### Does your specialty use a “Preference List?”

The Physician Champion representing your specialty will determine if a shortened list of commonly used terms can help with efficiency. If so, this will be implemented when submitted. Take care that the terms on the Preference List don't short circuit the need for a more specific term by occasionally checking your choices with the Problem List Calculator, or scanning the Facility List if a Preference List term is not adequately specific for the situation.

ICD-10 documentation specificity may include the following:

- Anatomical location and laterality (left, right, bilateral)
- Severity (mild, moderate, severe)
- Acuity (acute, sub-acute, chronic, acute and chronic, recurrent)
- Type of encounter (initial, subsequent, sequela)
- Associated or underlying conditions or diseases
- Complications

### Problem List Calculator

- Generic (“non-specific”) terms trigger the Problem List Calculator.
- Providers are prompted for more details (modifier buttons), adding specificity.
- If a more specific term/modifier cannot be determined, “Unsure” may be selected.
- If your note was opened before updating the Problem List, “refresh” the Problem List link in your note to bring in the updated information (right click, select “Refresh SmartLink.”)

The screenshot shows the 'Database Search - Baby Jessup' window. The search term 'asthma' is entered in the search box. The results table is as follows:

ID	Name	ICD-9 Codes	ICD-10 Codes
285192	Asthma	493.90	J45.909
379381	Asthma attack	493.92	J45.901
1072221	Asthma attacks lasting more than 24 hours	493.92	J45.901
566219	Asthma complicating pregnancy, antepartum	648.93, 493.90	O99.89, J45.909
1190622	Asthma due to environmental allergies	493.90	J45.909
441439	Asthma due to inhalation of fumes	506.3	J68.3
340833	Asthma due to internal immunological process	493.00	
1190540	Asthma due to seasonal allergies	493.90	
447265	Asthma exacerbation	493.92	
554006	Asthma exacerbation attacks	493.92	
462435	Asthma exacerbation in COPD	493.22	
450795	Asthma exacerbation with COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)	493.22	I44.9

Below the table, the 'Select additional details:' section shows the following options:

Asthma complication type:  with acute exacerbation  with status asthmaticus  uncomplicated asthma

Asthma severity:  mild intermittent  mild persistent  moderate persistent  severe persistent

The selected term is 'Moderate persistent asthma with status asthmaticus [493.91]'.

Annotations in the image:

1. Enter Problem Description (points to the search box)
2. Select from the modifiers to add more details (points to the modifier buttons)
3. Once selected, a more specific diagnosis term and ICD-9 code will appear. (points to the selected term)

Additional annotation: 'ICD-10 codes are also viewable' (points to the ICD-10 Codes column in the table).