

# Diagnosis “Present on Admission” (POA) Functional Specifications

## POA Data Element Naming Convention;

The POA data element must contain the letters POA followed by a single POA indicator for every diagnosis code that is reported.

- The first 3 characters must be “POA”.
- The fourth character must be the POA Indicator associated with the Principal Diagnosis Code
- The fifth through the 21st character are associated with up to 17 other diagnosis codes in sequential order
- Place An “X” or “Z” (Other Diagnosis termination character) after the last POA indicator

## Valid POA indicators;

- Y – Diagnosis was present at time of inpatient admission
- N – Diagnosis was not present at time of inpatient admission
- U – Documentation insufficient to determine if condition was present at the time of inpatient admission.
- W – Clinically undetermined. Provider unable to clinically determine whether the condition was present at admission
- 1 - Unreported / Not used. Exempt from POA reporting

## POA Code Data Element – Sample Listing

**POAYZ** (Example - if only Principal diagnosis code was reported).

**POAYNUW1Z** (Example - if 5 diagnosis codes were reported).

**POAYNUW1YNUW1Z** (Example - if 10 diagnosis codes were reported).

## New Edit requirements for POA

- POA is an optional field and not required in the XML.
- When present, the POA indicator must be an alphanumeric value with a min length of 5, and max length of 22
- The POA data element must contain the letters POA followed by a single POA indicator for every diagnosis code reported.
- The Diagnosis POA Indicator must be one of the following values; Y, N, U, W, or 1
- The Diagnosis termination indicator must be either “X” or “Z”