SCENARIO
Venous stasis ulcer

A patient is admitted to home care for teaching and training for wound care to a stasis ulcer of his left ankle with fat layer exposed. The stasis ulcer was caused by venous sufficiency.

Code the scenario in ICD-9:

Primary and Secondary Diagnoses		M1024 Case Mix	
		3	4
M1020a Venous (peripheral) insufficiency, unspecified	459.81		
M1022b Ulcer of ankle	707.13		

Rationale:

• The stasis ulcer caused by venous insufficiency is captured first with the code for underlying disease (459.81) followed by the code for the location of the ulcer (707.13).

Code the scenario in ICD-10:

Primary and Secondary Diagnoses		M1025 Additional Diagnoses	
M1021 Venous insufficiency (chronic) (peripheral)	I87.2		
M1023 Non-pressure chronic ulcer of left ankle with fat layer exposed	L97.322		

Rationale:

• Similar to scenario coded in ICD-9, this scenario requires a code for the etiology of the ulcer (the venous insufficiency) and the location of the ulcer. Note that the ICD-10 ulcer code offers a much greater level of detail including the depth of tissue the ulcer has affected.

SCENARIO
Non-healing stasis ulcer with varicose veins

A patient is admitted to home care with a diagnosis of a non-healing stasis ulcer on his right lower leg with skin breakdown. The physician specified that the stasis ulcer resulted from varicose veins. Skilled nursing has been ordered to provide wound care.

Code the scenario in ICD-9:

Primary and Secondary Diagnoses		M1024 Case Mix	
		3	4
M1020a Varicose veins of lower extremities with ulcer	454.0		

Rationale:

• The stasis ulcer is the result of varicose veins and is captured with 454.0. No code from 707.1x is required as the 454 series is excluded from the 707.1x series, and the ulcer is included in the 454.0 code title.

Code the scenario in ICD-10:

Primary and Secondary Diagnoses		M1025 Additional Diagnoses	
M1021 Varicose veins of right lower extremity with ulcer other part of lower leg	I83.018		
M1023 Non-pressure chronic ulcer of other part of right lower leg limited to breakdown of skin	L97.811		

Rationale:

• Since the ulcer was caused by varicose veins, the I83.0- category is the appropriate place to begin, and I83.018 specifies the location of the ulcer.

• Unlike in ICD-9, a separate code is needed to identify the severity of the ulcer, L97.811 in this case to indicate that the wound is limited to the skin.