# HIMS BMG PHYSICIAN PRACTICE CODER
## Borderline Diabetes RAF FAQ

**Question:** If the provider documents in the assessment Diabetes mellitus, borderline, continue to watch the diet and weight, would you assign code E11.9?

**Answer:** You would not code E11.9**.** Coding guidelines state that you would code a borderline diagnosis as confirmed, <u>unless</u> the classification provides a specific entry (e.g. borderline diabetes). So in this case you can find borderline diabetes in the ICD-10-CM index and it leads you to code R73.09.

### Coding Guidelines I.B.17

If the provider documents a "borderline" diagnosis at the time of discharge, the diagnosis is coded as confirmed, unless the classification provides a specific entry (e.g., borderline diabetes). If a borderline condition has a specific index entry in ICD-10-CM, it should be coded as such. Since borderline conditions are not uncertain diagnoses, no distinction is made between the cares setting (inpatient versus outpatient). Whenever the documentation is unclear regarding a borderline condition, coders are encouraged to query for clarification.

### I-10 Coding Handbook

Care should be taken when coding a diagnosis documented as "borderline diabetes." If the provider has confirmed a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus, the appropriate code from categories E08–E13, Diabetes mellitus, should be assigned. Otherwise, a diagnosis of "borderline diabetes" without further provider confirmation of the disease should be assigned a code from subcategory R73.0-, abnormal glucose.

**References:**
ICD-10-CM Coding Guidelines 2015