# Final Determination Table for Medical Decision Making

To arrive at the final determination for the level of exam, 2 of 3 components (problems, data and risk) must have the same level of complexity (straightforward, low, moderate or high). Otherwise, select 1 level lower from highest level.

## Components

### Number and/or Complexity of Problems Addressed at the Encounter
- **Minimal**
  - 1 self-limited or minor problem
- **Limited**
  - 1 of 2 Categories must be met
  - Category 1: Tests and documents any combination of 2 from the following:
    - Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source
    - Review of the results(s) of each unique test
    - Ordering of each unique test
  - Category 2: Assessment requiring an independent historian(s)

### Amount and/or Complexity of Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed
- **Minimal or none**
- **Limited**
  - 1 of 2 Categories must be met
  - Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s). Any combination of 3 from the following:
    - Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source
    - Review of the results(s) of each unique test
    - Ordering of each unique test
    - Assessment requiring an independent historian(s)
  - Category 2: Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/QHP (not separately reported)
  - Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation

### Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management
- **Minimal**
  - Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing and treatment
- **Low**
  - Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
- **Moderate**
  - Moderate risk of morbidity from additional testing or treatment.
  - Examples only:
    - Prescription drug management
    - Decision regarding elective major surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors
    - Decision regarding emergency major surgery without identified patient or procedure risk factors
    - Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health
- **High**
  - High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment.
  - Examples only:
    - Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity
    - Decision regarding elective major surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors
    - Decision regarding hospitalization or escalation of hospital care
    - Decision not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis
    - Parenteral controlled substances

### Final Determination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>STRAIGHT-FORWARD</th>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>MODERATE</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number and/or Complexity of Problems Addressed at the Encounter</td>
<td>Minimal 1 self-limited or minor problem</td>
<td>Low 2 or more self-limited or minor problems; Or 1 stable chronic illness; Or 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury; Or 1 stable, acute illness Or 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury requiring hospital inpatient or observation level of care</td>
<td>Moderate 1 or more chronic illnesses with exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; Or 2 or more stable chronic illnesses; Or 1 undiagnosed new problem with uncertain prognosis; Or 1 acute illness with systemic symptoms; Or 1 acute complicated injury</td>
<td>High 1 or more chronic illnesses with severe exacerbation, progression or side effects of treatment; Or 1 acute or chronic illness or injury that pose a threat to life/body function</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount and/or Complexity of Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed</td>
<td>Minimal or none</td>
<td>Limited 1 of 2 Categories must be met Category 1: Tests and documents any combination of 2 from the following: Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source; Review of the results(s) of each unique test; Ordering of each unique test; Category 2: Assessment requiring an independent historian(s)</td>
<td>Moderate At least 1 of 3 Categories must be met Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s). Any combination of 3 from the following: Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source; Review of the results(s) of each unique test; Ordering of each unique test; Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) Category 2: Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/QHP (not separately reported); Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation</td>
<td>Extensive 2 of 3 Categories must be met Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s). Any combination of 3 from the following: Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source; Review of the results(s) of each unique test; Ordering of each unique test; Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/QHP (not separately reported) Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation</td>
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<td>Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management</td>
<td>Minimal Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing and treatment</td>
<td>Low Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment</td>
<td>Moderate Moderate risk of morbidity from additional testing or treatment. Examples only: Prescription drug management Decision regarding minor surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors Decision regarding elective major surgery without identified patient or procedure risk factors Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health</td>
<td>High High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment. Examples only: Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity Decision regarding elective major surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors Decision regarding emergency major surgery Decision regarding hospitalization or escalation of hospital care Decision not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis Parenteral controlled substances</td>
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