

2.1.1 Nature of Injury or Illness--Definition, Rules of Selection
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The nature of injury or illness identifies the principal physical characteristic(s) of the injury or illness.

1.0 DEFINITION

The nature of injury or illness identifies the principal physical characteristic(s) of the work-related injury or illness.

RULES OF SELECTION:

- 1.1 Name the injury or illness indicated on the source document. *Example: For strained back, choose **Sprains, strains, tears.***
- 1.2 When two or more injuries or illnesses are indicated, and one is a sequela, aftereffect, complication due to medical treatment, or re-injury, choose the initial injury or illness. *Example: If a laceration became infected developing into septicemia, choose **Cuts, lacerations.***
- 1.3 When two or more injuries or illnesses are indicated and one is more severe than the other(s), select the more severe injury or illness. *Example: If sprained finger and fractured wrist, choose **Fractures.***
 - 1.3.1 When a single event or exposure produces an injury and transmits a disease simultaneously, and one is more severe than the other(s), select the more severe injury or disease. *Example: If a needle stick produces a puncture wound and transmits an infectious disease, serum hepatitis, choose **serum hepatitis.***
- 1.4 When two or more injuries or illnesses are indicated but no one can be determined as being more severe than the others, select the appropriate multiple injuries or illnesses classification code. *Example: For fractured and burned left leg, choose **Fractures and burns.***