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AHIMA Approved ICD-10-CM/PACS Trainer

*In this Issue:*

ICD-10 in Practice

CASE STUDIES AND

DOCUMENTATION

REQUIREMENTS

Explore the Codes

COMMON CODES AND CDI TIPS

## ICD-10 in Practice:

### CASE STUDIES AND DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

**Q: An 18-year-old female patient is seen for an ankle sprain. What ICD-10-CM diagnosis code(s) are assigned?**

**A:** When we look in the ICD-10-CM code book, we find that injuries are grouped by the body part instead of categories of injury as in ICD-9-CM. When we look for ankle sprain (in the index under sprain, ankle), we are directed to Chapter 19 Injury, Poisoning and Certain Other Consequences of External Causes (S00-T88). The specific ICD-10-CM category we find is:

**S93.4—Sprain of ankle.** This block instructs us to use a fifth, sixth and seventh digit:

**S93.401—Sprain of unspecified ligament of right ankle**

**S93.402—Sprain of unspecified ligament of the left ankle.**

**S93.409—Sprain of unspecified ligament of unspecified ankle.**

A seventh digit is also required to identify the patient encounter: **A-Initial D-Subsequent S-Late Effect (Sequela)**

This scenario lacks information to code anything more specific than S93.409. Some payers have stated that they are not going to reimburse claims with unspecified ICD-10-CM codes. Also, government and third-party payers are going to assign severity and risk scores based on the diagnosis codes billed, and these scores will help you justify higher level codes and better reimbursement. To avoid a query overflow from coders because of a lack of documentation, the provider should include the following documentation:

**Which ankle, right or left?**

**Is this the initial, subsequent or sequela encounter?**

**How did this injury happen?**

**Where did this injury happen?**

Once the physician responds, you can then choose the correct specific code.

For instance, the physician may indicate that this is the initial encounter for this problem, and the patient sprained her right ankle when she slipped on ice on the driveway while going to the mailbox.

Based on this information, we now can choose that the appropriate ICD-10-CM code of S93.401A

**These are just a few examples to put the tedious specifics required for ICD-10 into perspective.....**

**Are you ready???**

Explore the Codes...

COMMON CODES AND CDI TIP EXAMPLES

#### Contusion

Location: precise anatomic location

Location: Laterality; left, right, bilateral

Location: Geographic location, work school, home

Where, why and how: with or without foreign body

Contributing factors: Tobacco ETOH, drug abuse, addiction

#### ASTHMA

Type: Intrinsic, extrinsic, allergic, atopic, environmental, exercise, chronic, IgE

Severity: mild, mild persistent, moderate persistent, severe persistent, intermittent

Significant abnormalities: tachycardia, low O2 sat

Complications: none, with exacerbation, status asthmatics, lung infection

Contributing factors: COPD, tobacco, environmental exposure

#### Bronchitis

Type: Viral bacterial environmental, chronic

Temporal: Acute, chronic, sub-acute

Organism: unknown, Mycoplasma, H influenza, strep, Coxsackie virus,

Para-influenza, RSV, rhinovirus, echovirus

Clinical Findings: Fever, malaise, nasal congestions, cough, sputum production

Complication: Bronchospasm, bacterial infection

Tobacco or environmental exposure

#### Rotator Cuff

Location: specific muscle if known, supraspinatus

Severity: Tear, strain, or rupture, incomplete

Location: Left, right, bilateral

Why and how injury occurred