Addendum

Subsequent to the original printing of this study guide, NHA determined that enough time had elapsed since the transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10 that the CMAA certification exam and study guide should only cover information on ICD-10. For clients who received a printed copy of the study guide prior to this change, this addendum provides details on the changes. These are:

- All references to ICD-9 have been removed and updated to ICD-10 as appropriate.
- The pages covering ICD-9 and ICD-10 in chapter 2 have been replaced with the pages attached to this document, which provide additional content on ICD-10.
Birthday Rule

This informal procedure has been widely adopted by the insurance industry. It applies to dependent children whose parents have more than one insurance policy. Under the birthday rule, the health plan of the parent whose birthday comes first in the calendar year is designated as the primary plan. It doesn’t matter how old the parent is or which parent is older; the issue is the date of birth and which comes first.

There are some exceptions to the birthday rule.

- If both parents have the same birthday, the health plan that has covered the parent the longest is considered the primary plan.
- If the parents are separated or divorced, the health plan of the parent who has custody of children is considered the primary plan. If one spouse has insurance under a group plan and the other spouse has an individual plan, the group plan is primary.
- If one parent is employed and has a health insurance plan and the other parent has insurance through a former employer (such as through the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, or COBRA) and the children are listed as dependents on both plans, the plan of the active employee is the primary plan.

CODING SYSTEMS

The following coding systems are used to report diagnoses, procedures, and services.

- ICD-10-CM (diagnoses for all providers)
- ICD-10-PCS (hospital inpatient procedures only)
- CPT (outpatient procedures and services, including physician offices)
- HCPCS Level II (outpatient procedures and services, including physician offices)

ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS

ICD-10-CM

ICD-10-CM disease and injury codes contain up to seven alphanumeric characters, such as T82.120S (Displacement of cardiac electrode, sequela). Assignment requires the interpretation of coding conventions (e.g., Code also, Excludes 1). The first character of an ICD-10-CM code is always a letter, and codes that contain four or more characters require the use of a decimal. The placeholder “x” is used when a seventh character is required but there is no fifth and/or sixth character, such as T14.8xxA (Other injury of unspecified body region, initial encounter).

ICD-10-CM contains an (1) Index to Diseases and Injuries, which includes a Neoplasm Table, Table of Drugs and Chemicals, and an Index to External Causes; and a (2) Tabular List of Diseases and Injuries. Main terms in the index are boldfaced, and subterms are indented. When using the ICD-10-CM index to locate a code, the tabular list must be reviewed to validate accuracy of code assignment.
ICD-10-PCS

ICD-10-PCS procedure codes contain seven alphanumeric characters (using letters A-H, J-N, and P-Z), such as 0DTJ0ZZ (Resection of Appendix, Open Approach). No decimal is used in ICD-10-PCS codes, and letters I and O are not used (because they could be confused with numbers 1 and 0). ICD-10-PCS contains an (1) Index and (2) Tables. Main terms in the index are boldfaced, and subterms are indented. When using the ICD-10-PCS index to locate a procedure, the appropriate table must be used to “build a code” (e.g., index main term “Appendectomy” directs the coder to table 0DTJ to locate the fifth through seventh characters, resulting in 0DTJ0ZZ for an open approach or 0DTJ4ZZ for a percutaneous endoscopic approach).

ICD-10-PCS procedures are organized into 17 sections, which include:

- 0 Medical and Surgical
- 1 Obstetrics
- 2 Placement
- 3 Administration
- 4 Measurement and Monitoring
- 5 Extracorporeal or Systemic Assistance and Performance
- 6 Extracorporeal or Systemic Therapies
- 7 Osteopathic
- 8 Other Procedures
- 9 Chiropractic
- B Imaging
- C Nuclear Medicine
- D Radiation Therapy
- F Physical Rehabilitation and Diagnostic Audiology
- G Mental Health
- H Substance Abuse Treatment
- X New Technology

The first character of an ICD-10-PCS code always corresponds to the section where the procedure is classified. The second through seventh characters have specific meanings, which are unique to each section.