

LW Consulting, Inc.

CodingAlert

Coding & Audit Pitfalls:
Best Practices to Avoid Compliance Issues

September 2017

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DATES OF SERVICE	PROCEDURE CODE	
05/21/10-05/21/10	82272	PU
05/21/10-05/21/10	94010	PULMO
05/21/10-05/21/10	94375	CARDIOVASCULAR SE
05/21/10-05/21/10	93000	VENIPUNCTURE
05/21/10-05/21/10	36410	

Are You Ready for the 2018 ICD-10-CM Diagnosis and Coding Changes?

Are your physicians and coders ready for October 1, 2017 when the new diagnosis codes and coding changes take effect? The 2018 ICD-10-CM codes are to be used for discharges occurring from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018 and for patient encounters occurring from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

New ICD-10-CM Code Changes for 2018

Significantly, the 2018 update will result in:

- The addition of more than 360 new codes;
- The deletion of 142 existing codes;
- The conversion of approximately 7 codes; and
- The revision of 226 codes.

More precisely, some of the changes that we will see for 2018 include:

- Specificity in coding for breast lumps;
- More specific codes for partial versus complete intestinal obstruction;
- Specifying obstruction due to peritoneal adhesions;
- More specificity in location of pressure ulcers;
- More specificity in depth of certain non-pressure ulcers;

To inquire about coding education, medical record documentation or compliance auditing, contact Rob Senska by calling 609-249-3819 or email RSenska@LW-Consult.com.

Finally, make sure you:

- Understand the coding guidelines released on August 10, 2017. When you review the guidelines for this coming fiscal year, please note the following:
 - Narrative changes appear in bold text
 - Items underlined have been moved within the guidelines since the FY 2017 version
 - Italics are used to indicate revisions to heading changes
- Implement documentation improvement strategies now that specificity in diagnosis coding is even more important under MACRA and MIPS.

Coding Guidelines:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/Downloads/2018-ICD-10-CM-Coding-Guidelines.pdf>

List of ICD-10-CM Codes:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/2018-ICD-10-CM-and-GEMs.html>