Chapter 2

OVERVIEW OF CONTENT AND FORMAT

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Learning Objectives

- Understand the format used in ICD-10-CM.
- Understand the Alphabetic Index and Tabular List.
- Understand the level of specificity.
- Understand placeholders and the use of the “x.”
- Demonstrate knowledge of the ICD-10-CM content and format.

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Introduction

- Chapter 2 covers the structure and function of ICD-10-CM, and how the content is formatted for coding purposes.
- Standard diagnostic classification for all general epidemiological and many health management purposes, and clinical use.
- Used to classify diseases and other health problems recorded on many types of health and vital records including death certificates and health records.
- Provide the basis for the compilation of national mortality and morbidity statistics by WHO Member states.

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Changes from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM

- ICD-10-CM has 21 chapters.
- These chapters are subdivided into blocks of three alphanumeric character categories.
- ICD-10-CM far exceeds ICD-9-CM by the sheer number of codes and concepts provided.
- Over 69,000 ICD-10-CM codes in comparison to 14,000 codes in ICD-9-CM.
- Specificity at the sixth-digit level and with a seventh-digit extension.

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Changes from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM

- Sixth- and seventh-digit extensions are not optional but are required.
- ICD-10 has alphanumeric categories rather than numeric categories.
- Some chapters have been rearranged.
- Some titles have changed.
- Conditions have been regrouped.
- ICD-10 has almost twice as many categories as ICD-9.
- Minor changes have been made in the coding rules for mortality.

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ICD-10-CM
Format and Structure

- Tabular lists contain cause-of-death titles and codes (Volume 1).
- Inclusion and exclusion terms for cause-of-death titles (Volume 1).
- Alphabetical index to diseases and nature of injury.
- External causes of injury.
- Table of drugs and chemicals (Volume 3).
- Description, guidelines, and coding rules (Volume 2).

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ICD-10-CM
Format and Structure

- Improvements in the contents and layout include
  - Addition of information relevant to ambulatory and managed care encounters.
  - Expanded injury codes.
  - Creation of combination diagnosis/symptom codes to reduce the number of codes needed to fully describe a condition.
  - Incorporation of common fourth- and fifth-digit subclassifications.
  - Laterality.
  - Greater specificity in code assignment.

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Tabular List

- The Tabular List contains categories, subcategories, and codes.
- Each character for all categories, subcategories, and codes may be either a letter or number.
- All categories are three characters.
- Chapter: A main division in ICD-10-CM manual, Volume 1 consists of 21 chapters with code ranges of A00-Z99.

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Tabular List

- Category: Alphanumeric of 3 characters (rubrics) that represents a single condition or disease, which is also referred to as a rubric.
- Subcategory: Four to six character(s) that provide a higher level of specificity as compared to the three-character diagnosis code.
- Extension: The seventh character provides additional information in the diagnosis.

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3-Character Categories

- Each ICD-10-CM chapter begins with a list of blocks—or subchapters—of three-character categories.
- The classification of Diseases and Injuries is the main component of ICD-10-CM.

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4-Character Subcategories

- Four-character categories further define the site, etiology, and manifestation or state of the disease or condition.
- Four-digit subcategory includes the three-digit category plus decimal with an additional digit to further identify the condition to the highest level of specificity.
- ICD-10-CM uses an indented format and each code includes the description of the code.

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5- and 6-Character Subcategories

- Fifth- or sixth-character subclassifications represent the most accurate level of specificity.
- Addition may identify more specificity regarding the patient's condition or diagnosis.

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Seventh-Character Extension

- The seventh character must always be the seventh character in the data field.
- If a code that requires a seventh character is not six characters, a placeholder “x” must be used to fill in the empty characters.
- ICD-10-CM utilizes “dummy placeholders” using character “x.”
  - The “x” is used as a fifth- or sixth-character placeholder to allow for future expansion.

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Seventh-Character Extension

- Some codes in ICD-10-CM require either six or seven characters in the code. If the code, for example, had five characters and a seventh character was required based on the instructional notes, placeholders would be used in sixth-character position to allow for the seventh-character extension to be reported.

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Alphabetic Index

- The Alphabetic Index is divided into four sections and is organized by main term.
  - Section 1, Index to Diseases and Nature of Injury.
  - Section 2, Neoplasm Table.
  - Section 3, Table of Drugs and Chemicals.
  - Section 4, Index to External Causes.

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Table of Drugs and Chemicals

- Table classifies drugs and other chemical substances to identify poisoning states and external causes of adverse effects.
- Listed substance is assigned a code according to the poisoning classification (T codes).
- Codes are used when there is a statement of poisoning, overdose, wrong substance given or taken, or intoxication.
- Table also contains a listing of external causes of adverse effects from the poisoning.

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Table of Drugs and Chemicals

- T codes listings that are divided:
  - Poisoning (accidental, unintentional).
  - Poisoning (intentional, self-harm).
  - Poisoning (assault).
  - Poisoning (undetermined).
  - Adverse effect.
  - Underdosing.

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External Cause of Injuries Index

- V-Y character codes:
  - Alphabetical listing for referencing the codes describing external causes of injury and poisoning.
  - Index contains terms that describe an accident or act of violence. It is organized according to the type of violence or accident.

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