Cancer Coding Tips & Billing Examples

Cancer

Cancer starts when cells grow out of control and crowd normal cells². In all types of cancer, some of the body's cells begin to divide without stopping and spread into surrounding tissues¹. There are many types of cancer and the causes vary greatly.

Symptoms of Cancer

The signs and symptoms will depend on where the cancer is located, how big it is, and how much it affects the organs or tissues². If a cancer has spread *(metastasized)*, signs or symptoms may appear in different parts of the body². Some signs include noticeable changes such as changes in the skin, breast, or urination¹ while other signs are not known until the cancer has grown quite large².

Treatment of Cancer

There are many types of treatment that will depend on the type of cancer and how advanced it is¹. Common treatments include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, targeted therapy, and immunotherapy².

Visit our website:

https://www.homestatehealth.com/providers/tools-resources/coding-page.html

Resources

- 2. American Cancer Association http://www.cancer.org/
- 3. Elsevier Clinical Solutions (Understanding the ICD-10-CM Neoplasm Coding Guidelines)
- 4. ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/icd/10cmguidelines_fy2018_final.pdf





^{1.} National Cancer Institute https://www.cancer.gov/



Malignant Neoplasm Coding Guidance

| TIPS: | | ICD-10 Mapping & Education |
|------------------|--|--|
| \triangleright | ICD-10-CM | C00 – D49 code series O9A.1- code series (Malignant neoplasm in Pregnancy) |
| > | Specify Anatomical Site and Behavior | Malignant Primary (original site) Malignant Secondary (metastasized) Carcinoma in situ Unspecified Behavior |
| | Primary vs. Secondary | Exam is for Primary Malignant site(s) with known/unknown secondary site(s): 1st Dx: [Primary] Cancer 2nd Dx: [Known/Unknown] Cancer Exam is for Secondary Malignant site(s) with an active primary site(s): 1st Dx: [Secondary] Cancer 2nd Dx: [Primary] Cancer |
| > | Admission for treatment | Code FIRST: Encounter for radiation therapy (Z51.0) Encounter for chemotherapy (Z51.11) Encounter for immunotherapy (Z51.12) Code SECOND: Malignancy for which the therapy is being administered. |
| • | Active vs. "History of" vs. "in remission" | Active: Malignancy is excised but patient is still undergoing treatment directed to that site. Primary malignancy codes should be used until treatment is complete. Example: "Patient with ongoing chemotherapy after right mastectomy for breast cancer." History: Malignancy has been previously excised or eradicated, there is no further treatment directed to that site, and no evidence of any existing primary malignancy. Then malignancy is considered a "history of" for coding purposes (Z85). Example: "Breast cancer treated with mastectomy and adjunct chemotherapy 3 years ago." In Remission: Don't confuse personal history with "in remission". Codes for leukemia, multiple myeloma, and malignant plasma cell neoplasms indicate whether the condition has achieved remission³. Example: "Patient with leukemia documented as "in remission" is admitted for autologous bone marrow transplantation." |

Resources

1. Autism Speaks: What is Autism? (https://www.autismspeaks.org/what-autism)

2. WebMD: What is Autism? (http://www.webmd.com/brain/autism/ss/slideshow-autism-overview)

3. 2017 ICD-10-CM Expert for Physicians: The Complete Official Code Set, Optum360. 2016 Optum360, LLC

Billing Sample #1

Primary Care Physician Documentation: Medical record SOAP format (condensed)



| DOS: 07/10/2017 | Claim Diagnosis Codes & Rationale | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Gender: F DOB: XX/XX/1976 Pulse: 69 Temp:98.8°F Weight: 81.40lb Height: 4.4 BMI: 20.84 | <u>ICD-10-CM</u> | Description | Medical Record Support | |
| HPI: A 41 y.o. female with a history of breast cancer and s/p | G62.0 | Drug-induced Neuropathy | <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: Provider listed Neuropathy due to chemo – adverse effect of the drug cisplatin. | |
| double mastectomy on 2016 comes in today for follow up of chemotherapy for metastatic cancer to the hip and femur bone. Patient is having some severe pain which seems to originate from her femur bones. | T45.1X5A | Adverse effects of antineoplastic and immunosuppressiv e drugs | <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: Provider listed Neuropathy due to chemo – adverse effect of the drug cisplatin <u>Rationale</u>: ICD-10-CM guidelines state when G62.0 is used to use additional code for adverse effect, if applicable, to identify drug(T36 – T50 with fifth or sixth character) | |
| Problem List/History: Onc Hx : Diagnosed with Breast Cancer in 2015 when a lump was found. A biopsy revealed its malignancy. A double mastectomy was performed in 2016 and given her aggressive tumor she was started on | G89.3 | Neoplasm related pain (acute) (chronic) | <u>HPI, Problem List, Assessment & Plan</u>: Provider listed severe pain in several areas of the note. Patient is taking Percocet for pain management. | |
| neo-adjuvant chemo with ddAC on 9/20/16. A PET scan in 2016 showed cancer metastasis to the hip and femur bones. Started chemo and radiation therapy which should also help with the pain. | C79.51 | Secondary Malignant Neoplasm of Bone | <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: Provider listed Metastatic cancer to hip and femur bone and stated patient is waiting to receive radiation therapy treatments. <u>Rationale</u>: Metastatic Cancer points to Neoplasm>Malignant Secondary by site. Both the hip and femur code to C79.51 | |
| Medications Reviewed: Metastron, Bisphosphonates, Maxalt, Tamoxifen, Percocet Assessment and Plan: Neuropathy due to chemo – adverse effect of the drug | Z85.3 | Personal History of Malignant neoplasms of breast | <u>HPI</u>: Provider stated patient with a history of breast cancer . <u>Rationale</u>: ICD-10-CM guidelines state a cancer becomes historical when patient is no longer receiving treatment or awaiting surgery for that site. Since the treatment given is for the bone cancer and not for the breast, the breast cancer has to be coded as history. | |
| cisplatin. Started on Duloxetine. Percocet for pain management. Metastatic cancer to hip and femur bone – seeing Oncologist – waiting to start radiation therapy treatments. | Z79.810 | Long term (current) use of SERMS (tamoxifen) | <u>Medications</u>: Tamoxifen listed as current medication. <u>Rationale</u>: Codes from Z79- category indicate a patient's continuous use of prescribed drug for the long-term treatment of a condition or for prophylactic use. | |
| S/P Double Mastectomy – performed in 2016. | Z90.13 | Acquired Absence of bilateral breast and nipples | <u>HPI</u>: Provider documents Double mastectomy done in 2016. <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: S/P Double Mastectomy –2016. | |

Billing Sample #2

GI Specialist Documentation: Medical record SOAP format (condensed)



| ulse: 80 Temp: | Claim Diagnosis Codes & Rationale | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 5.10 BMI: 30.84 | ICD-10-CM | Description | Medical Record Support | | |
| w up <mark>and chemo</mark> for his of FOLFOX + Bev. Had (7. C7 went well. Pain bd pain. More active | Z51.11 | Encounter for antineoplastic chemotherapy | <u>HPI</u>: Provider documents patient came in for chemo for Stage IV Colon Cancer. <u>Rationale</u>: ICD-10-CM guidelines state if a patient admission or encounter involves treatment directed at the malignancy, list Z51 as the principal diagnosis. | | |
| 11 of FOLFOX with ay. Course | C18.5 | Malignant neoplasm colon, splenic flexure | <u>HPI</u>: Provider documents Stage IV Colon Cancer. <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: Provider documents Stage IV CRC splenic flexure. <u>Rationale</u>: If provider documents the cancer differently in different parts of the note code the most specified. | | |
| al with ABD PAIN. n. Finished C12 of therapy to both lobes to started on FOLFIRI f therapy. Now with | C78.7 | Secondary malignant neoplasm of the liver | <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: Provider documents patient had Y90 localized therapy to both lobes of the liver mets. <u>Rationale</u>: If a cancer is being actively treated, then it is coded. Metastatic Cancer points to Neoplasm > Malignant Secondary by site. | | |
| eviewed with patient localized treatment liver but systemically videnced in the CEA starting to rise as | C78.00 | Secondary malignant neoplasm of unspecified lung | <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: Provider documents systemically there seems to be progression as evidenced in the pulmonary metastatic disease. | | |
| Explained that we switch therapy as a m. Recommended ximab as patient has | R10.11 | Abdominal Pain Right Upper Quadrant | <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: provider documented worrisome progression of RUQ pain. <u>Rationale</u>: All complications resulting from chemo therapy should be coded additionally. | | |
| ects including sh were described in t next week. Patient | Z79.899 | Other long term (current) drug therapy | <u>Assessment & Plan</u>: Patient had been taking Avastin. <u>Rationale</u>: Codes from Z79- category indicate a patient's continuous use of prescribed drug for the long-term treatment of a condition or for prophylactic use. | | |

98.8°F Weight: 181.40lb Height: 5.10 BMI: 30.84

HPI: A 35 y.o. male came in for follow up and chemo for his Stage IV Colon cancer. He is s/p C12 of FOLFOX + Bev. Had both Y90 treatment. FOLFIRI + Bev X 7. C7 went well. Pain still not well controlled. Persistent Abd pain. More active over the last 2 weeks.

Assessment/Plan:

DOS: 07/21/2017

Gender: M DOB: XX/XX/1982 Pu

Stage IV CRC splenic flexure: S/p C1 Avastin held last treatment and toda complicated by admission to hospita Worrisome progression of RUQ pain therapy and then had Y90 localized t of the liver mets. New pulm mets, so With bev to regimen. S/P 7 cycles of pulm progression as above. Scans re and his mother. Explained that the l with Y 90 continues to improve the I there seems to be progression as evi pulmonary metastatic disease. His C well. Still awaiting today's results. E needed to think systemically and to s result of the progression where seen that we stop Avastin and start cetuxi K-ras wild-type tumor. The side effective sometimes significant acneiform ras detail. Recommended that we start agreed.

Billing Sample #3

Oncologist Documentation: Medical record SOAP format (condensed)



| DOS: 07/12/2017 Gender: F DOB: XX/XX/1970 Pulse: 70 Temp: 98.7°F | Claim Diagnosis Codes & Rationale | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Weight: 196.80lb Height: 5.7 BMI: 37.93/ 99% | ICD-10-CM | Description | Medical Record Support |
| HPI: The patient is a 47-year-old woman with oxygen- dependent COPD who was first seen at this hospital over a month ago complaining of abdominal pain. On chest x-ray, | Z51.11 | Encounter for antineoplastic chemotherapy | <u>Impression</u>: being admitted for initiation of chemotherapy to treat newly diagnosed mantle cell lymphoma |
| she had a possible infiltrate, and it was thought she might have pneumonia and was treated with antibiotics and prednisone. Symptoms improved temporarily, but did not completely resolve. Her pain eventually worsened, and she returned to the ER where an ultrasound was done. It was noted that her spleen was enlarged at 19 cm. She underwent positron emission tomography (PET) scanning, which showed diffuse hypermetabolic lymph nodes measuring 1–2 cm in diameter, as well as a hypermetabolic | C83.11 | Mantle cell lymphoma, lymph nodes of head, face, and neck | • <u>Rationale</u> : ICD-10-CM Guidelines Section I.C.2.a. states, "if a patient admission/encounter is solely for the administration of chemotherapy, immunotherapy or radiation therapy, assign the appropriate Z51 code as the first-listed or principal diagnosis." This guideline further specifies, as well as an instructional note found under category Z51-, to also code the condition requiring care. |
| spleen that was enlarged. The patient underwent lymph node biopsy on the right neck, pathology consistent with mantle cell lymphoma. Impression: The patient is being admitted for initiation of chemotherapy to treat newly diagnosed mantle cell lymphoma. Treatment will consist of hyperfractionated | R16.1 | Splenomegaly, not elsewhere classified | <u>HPI</u>: She underwent positron emission tomography (PET) scanning, which showed diffuse hypermetabolic lymph nodes measuring 1–2 cm in diameter, as well as a hypermetabolic spleen that was enlarged. <u>Rationale</u>: ICD-10-CM index points Enlarged, Spleen to <i>see Splenomegaly and Splenomegaly</i>. Code R16.1 Splenomegaly, not elsewhere classified, as no further specificity documented. |
| cyclophosphamide, vincristine, doxorubicin, and dexamethasone. Toxicities have already been discussed with her including bladder toxicity, myelosuppression, mucositis, diarrhea, nausea, the low risk for cardiac toxicity, neuropathy, constipation, etc. Written materials were | J44.9 | Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease | <u>HPI</u>: The patient is a 47-year-old woman with oxygen- dependent COPD. <u>Rationale</u>: ICD-10-CM guidelines state code all documented conditions that coexist at the time of the encounter/visit, and require or affect patient care treatment or management. |
| provided to her last week. Discussed possibility of increasing daily oxygen doses if necessary. | Z99.81 | Dependence on supplemental oxygen | <u>HPI</u>: The patient is a 47-year-old woman with oxygen- dependent COPD. <u>Rationale</u>: Assign status code Z99.81 when a patient is dependent on Oxygen. |

MORE CODING TIPS:

One way to document & code *chronic conditions* is by utilizing the acronym MEAT:

| <u>M</u> onitor | symptoms disease progression/regression ordering of tests referencing labs/other tests |
|----------------------------|--|
| <u>E</u> valuate | test results medication effectiveness response to treatment physical exam findings |
| <u>A</u> ssess/ Address | discussion, review records counseling acknowledging documenting status/level of condition |
| <u>T</u> reat | prescribing/continuation of medications surgical/other therapeutic interventions referral to specialist for treatment/consultation plan for management of condition |

General Notes:

Chronic Conditions can be coded during any type of visit even if they are stable.

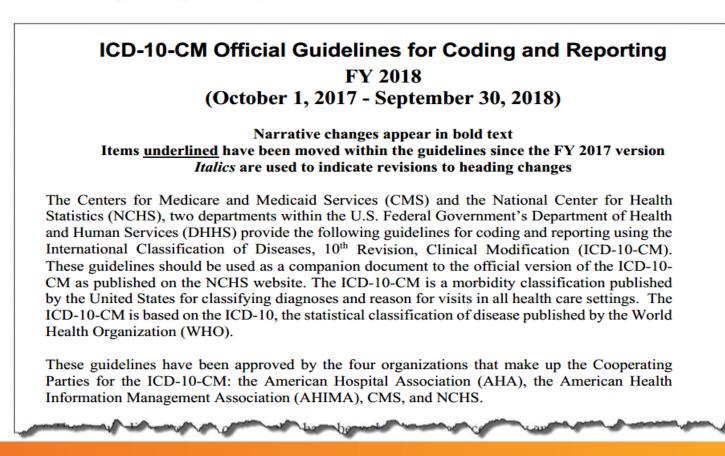
 Verify the condition, any medications,
 DME, injections,
 infusions.

Documentation must support that it was addressed



What are the ICD-10-CM Guidelines?

The *ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting* are rules that supplement the conventions and instructions within the ICD-10-CM classification. Adherence to these guidelines is required under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).



Physician's Role



Risk adjustment is an important process that allows the State and Federal government to appropriately allocate revenue to health plans for the high risk members enrolled.

- Physician data (coding information submitted on physician claims) is critical for accurate risk adjustment.
- Physician claims data is the largest source of medical data for the risk adjustment models which help to determine how resources are allotted for care of the population.
- □ Specificity of diagnosis coding is substantiated by the medical record. Accurate coding helps to best reflect the cost of caring for members/patients:
 - ✓ It demonstrates the level of complexity for the patient encounters.
 - ✓ It is vital to a healthy revenue cycle, and more important, to a healthy patient.
- □ Each progress note must:
 - ✓ Support what is coded and billed (ICD-10-CM, CPT, and HCPCS).
 - "Stand alone" making sure a single service date has proficient data to support the medical decision making.
 - ✓ Be complete and contain legible signature & credentials.
 - ✓ Show medical necessity.



"Document for others as you would want them to document for you."