ICD-10-CM: Preparation and Specificity as it Applies to Gastroenterology

In order to make a smooth transition from ICD-9 to ICD-10, time is of the essence. With an extra year to prepare, we should make sure to use it wisely. Since most providers aren’t specific with ICD-9, it is a challenge for the increased specificity of ICD-10. Listed below are some case studies to make the transition much smoother.

ICD-10-CM: Structure

Currently, three to seven alphanumerical codes:

- Character 1: Alpha
- Character 2: Numeric
- Characters 3-7: Alpha or Numeric

Example ICD-9 vs.: ICD-10-CM

- Ulcerative colitis with rectal bleeding
- ICD-9: 556.9, 569.3 (Takes two diagnosis codes to allow for symptom and chronic condition)
- ICD-10-CM: K51.911

ICD-10-CM: Case Study #1

A 50-year-old presents for his screening colonoscopy. There is no family history of colon cancer or polyps. Colonoscopy was completed to the cecum — bowel prep was good. Patient tolerated the procedure well. The following findings were noted: a descending colon polyp was removed by snare technique and a transverse colon polyp was removed by cold biopsy forceps. Both polyps were tubular adenomas, per pathology, and instructions to repeat colonoscopy in five years.

Answer:

CPT: ICD-10-CM

45385-33 Z12.11 Encounter for colon screening,
   D12.4 Benign neoplasm, descending colon,
45380-59 D12.3 Benign neoplasm, transverse colon

With ICD-10-CM’s increased specificity as to location of benign neoplasms of the colon, this will reduce denials and/or request for records on multiple endoscopy claims:

- D12.0 Benign neoplasm of cecum
- D12.1 Benign neoplasm of appendix
- D12.2 Benign neoplasm of ascending colon
- D12.3 Benign neoplasm of transverse colon
- D12.4 Benign neoplasm of descending colon
- D12.5 Benign neoplasm of sigmoid colon
- D12.6 Benign neoplasm of colon, (polyposis)
- D12.7 Benign neoplasm of rectosigmoid junction
ICD-10-CM Case Study #2
A 54-year-old female comes in for follow-up of IBS. She states that she has had diarrhea off and on for the past two weeks. She has been under a lot of stress; her husband left her and she recently lost her job. She denies any bleeding but complains of severe lower abdominal cramping relieved by passing gas. Appetite is not good. Impression: diarrhea, IBS, generalized lower abdominal pain.

Answer:
ICD-10 Diagnosis Code(s):
K58.0  Irritable bowel syndrome with diarrhea
R10.84  Generalized abdominal pain

ICD-10-CM Descriptor Differences
- Revised descriptors for some codes.
- Affects ability to look up codes unless EHR systems are customized in the list of favorites (specialty specific diagnosis lists).

Example:
ICD-9-CM Code:
- 530.3  Stricture and stenosis of esophagus
ICD-10-CM Code:
- K22.2  Esophageal obstruction

Most EHR programs have two files for diagnosis codes, one file with all diagnosis codes listed as per ICD book description which can’t be altered in code and description, and the other file that can’t be altered in code but can be altered and customized to individual/group provider familiar description(s). Work with providers to customize the software to facilitate ease of diagnosis look-up.

Example:
K22.2  Esophageal obstruction
K22.2  Esophageal stenosis
K22.2  Esophageal stricture
K22.2  Schatzki’s ring

ICD-10 Sample Conversion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD-9 CM</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>ICD-10 CM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>537.83</td>
<td>Angiodysplasia duodenum w/bldg</td>
<td>K31.811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>789.63</td>
<td>RLQ abdominal tenderness</td>
<td>R10.813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>783.41</td>
<td>Failure to thrive, newborn</td>
<td>P92.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>787.20</td>
<td>Dysphagia</td>
<td>R13.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>578.1</td>
<td>Hematochezia</td>
<td>K92.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>280.0</td>
<td>Chronic blood loss anemia</td>
<td>D50.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>280.9</td>
<td>Iron deficiency anemia, unspecified</td>
<td>D50.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>285.21</td>
<td>Anemia in chronic kidney disease</td>
<td>D63.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>285.9</td>
<td>Anemia unspecified</td>
<td>D64.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Code</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>284.11</td>
<td>Pancytopenia</td>
<td>D61.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>789.59</td>
<td>Ascites</td>
<td>R18.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>555.1</td>
<td>Regional Enteritis Large Intestine (New description is Crohn's)</td>
<td>K50.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>578.1 &amp;</td>
<td>Regional Enteritis small and large intestinewith bleeding</td>
<td>K50.811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>555.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(ICD-9 requires two codes but condenses to one code with combination of symptoms with chronic conditions in ICD-10.)*