



CPC Medical Billing

NEWSLETTER 8.2006

Coding Simplified

The mystery behind coding is a mystery itself. Coding is an issue in healthcare that is often mystified and made out to be more complicated than the actual procedure being coded.

In actuality the task of coding is very simple. Providers do not require a certified professional coder (CPC) on staff nor do they need them on routine basis. There are 5 services from a CPC that every provider should invest in:

- > The first is for the CPC to consult with the provider regarding the type of procedures they are performing.
- > The second is to request and review a half a dozen operative reports and clinical charts.
- > The third is to review with the provider those reports and charts to make sure that the provider is completing them correctly and no information is left out.
- > The fourth is to create superbills/encounter forms for the provider to use.
- > The fifth is to train the provider on how to utilize these forms and the rationale behind the codes chosen.

Most important, the provider must be willing to grant the same effort in understanding the codes that they gave when learning their trade. Without this enthusiasm all efforts will be for nothing.

The CPC should then be called in on a quarterly basis to spot check operative reports and charts for correct coding.

CPC's vary in level of service, be sure to choose a company that specializes in coding and research and has a proven track record. Just because someone has a CPC next to their name doesn't mean they will understand your specialty nor have the proper skills to service your practice. If you are using a billing service or have a software vendor call them and ask if they know of good CPC. Your next steps will be to do research on companies in your area that can help you. Interview at least 3 companies and ask them to outline their services step by step, be precise, and ask for specific dates for completing the service. Most importantly ask for references.

And last but not least get excited to start earning more!

Zachary Martinez
CPC Medical, Billing & Consulting
(212) 213-0877
Email me: zmartinez@cpccdata.com

For services or if you just have a question call us at (866) 992-1225 ext.15