

June 2019

Information You Need

Exclusive for AAPC Book and AAPC Coder Purchasers

Get a Sneak Peek at ICD-10-PCS Codes for 2020

Medical coders will have fewer procedural codes in 2020 from which to choose. The facility procedural code set will go from 78,881 codes to 77,559 codes effective Oct. 1, 2019. There are 734 code additions, 2,056 deletions, and two revisions, according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). [Learn More »](#)

Change to RT and LT Modifier Use

The Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MAC) are changing the requirement that medical coders to use the right (RT) and left (LT) modifiers for certain HCPCS codes, and that the modifiers be used when billing two of the same item or accessory on the same date of service and the items are being used bilaterally. [Learn More »](#)

CMS Approves 10 New Drug Codes

Ten new HCPCS Level II codes for drugs and biologicals will be payable for Medicare, effective for claims with dates of service on or after July 1, 2019. [Learn More »](#)

Time to Step Up ICD-10 Excludes Education for Providers

One of the many benefits of working for a nation-wide company, such as 3M Health Information Systems, is visibility into payer actions from coast to coast. Many customers send us comments about payer



actions and ask if we can help with some of the issues. This is an extremely valuable process as it helps us learn about industry pain points. One such comment that came in recently really surprised me — and I've been working in the healthcare industry for over 20 years and I thought there weren't any more surprises. [Learn More »](#)

E/M Documentation for Teaching Docs Changes July 1, 2019

There is a change in Medicare policy forthcoming regarding evaluation and management (E/M) services documentation requirements for teaching physicians. It is important to train teaching physicians, residents, and nurses who document E/M services of all changes to be implemented on July 1, 2019. [Learn More »](#)

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