This month’s focus is "Understanding the ICD-10-CM chapter specific guidelines."

As with ICD-9-CM chapter specific guidelines, draft guidelines for ICD-10-CM have been created. This month we will focus on Chapter 1 (Certain infectious and parasitic diseases), which includes guidelines for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), sepsis and infectious agents as the cause of the diseases classified to other chapters, and nosocomial infections.

Guideline 1.1 HIV

In ICD-10-CM there is a subcategory and four codes to classify HIV virus. These codes are:

- B20 Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) disease
- Z21 Asymptomatic human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection status
- R75 Inconclusive laboratory evidence of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
- Z20.6 Exposure to HIV Virus

The complication subcategory O98.7 reports HIV complicating pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium.

B20 is used when reporting symptomatic HIV patients and it includes any of the opportunistic infections associated with HIV virus. The code for HIV is synonymous with the term acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), and the AIDS replaced complex (ARC). Review the code example below:

Example:

**B20 Human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] disease**


Use additional code(s) to identify all manifestations of HIV infection.

Excludes1: asymptomatic human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] infection status (Z21) exposure to HIV virus (Z20.6) inconclusive serologic evidence of HIV (R75)

Currently in ICD-9-CM, the appropriate code for a symptomatic HIV patient is 042 (HIV) and an additional diagnosis code to identify the manifestations of the disease.

**Note:** People with HIV can get many infections (called opportunistic infections, or OIs).

Code Z21 is used for reporting a patient diagnosed with HIV positive status but has never had any opportunistic infections. Once a patient has had a first opportunistic infection code B20 is assigned. The draft guidelines state: "A patient should never be assigned a Z21 code, even if at a particular encounter, no infection or HIV related condition is present. Codes B20 and Z21 should never appear on the same record."

Confirmation of HIV status does not require documentation of positive serology or culture for HIV. Reporting is based on the physician’s documentation that the patient has an HIV-related illness or is HIV positive.

Review the ICD-10-CM example:

**Z21 Asymptomatic human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] infection status**

Includes: HIV positive NOS

Excludes1: acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (B20) contact with or exposure to human immunodeficiency virus [HIV]

(Z20.6) human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] disease

(B20) inconclusive laboratory evidence of human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] (R75)

Code Z20.6 is reported only when a patient may have been exposed or has come into contact with the HIV virus.

ICD-9-CM code V08-Asymptomatic human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection to status, to ICD-10-CM is Z21.

continued
Review the example:

Z20.6 Contact with and exposure to human immunodeficiency virus [HIV]

Excludes1: asymptomatic human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] infection status (Z21)

The crosswalk from ICD-9-CM for HIV exposure V01.79 to ICD-10-CM is Z20.6.

Code R75 is used when a patient has an inconclusive lab finding for HIV. This code is reported for newborns of HIV positive mothers whose HIV status has not been confirmed.

Review the example below:

R75 Inconclusive laboratory evidence of human immunodeficiency Virus [HIV]

Includes: nonconclusive HIV test finding in infants

Excludes1: asymptomatic human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] infection status (Z21) human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] disease (B20)

The crosswalk from ICD-9-CM is 797.71—inconclusive laboratory evidence of HIV to ICD-10-CM R75.

The last code related to HIV is 098.7 HIV disease complicating pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium. Notice in the example, the specificity of the subcategory is six digits beginning with the letter O. Diagnosis code(s) O98.71x is reported based on the trimester of pregnancy where as O98.72 is reported for HIV disease complicating childbirth and O98.72 is reported for complications of the puerperium.

Note: When a patient has HIV and is pregnant, codes from Chapter 15 of ICD-10-CM, Pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium is always sequenced first. Code O987x should be sequenced second followed by the appropriate HIV code.

O98.7 Human immunodeficiency [HIV] disease complicating pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium

Use additional code to identify the type of HIV disease:

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) (B20)

Asymptomatic HIV status (Z21)

HIV positive NOS (Z21)

Symptomatic HIV disease (B20)

O98.71 Human immunodeficiency [HIV] disease complicating pregnancy

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