Professional Coding System Overview





Rebekah Wallace Pardeck, CMPE, CPC®, CPCO™



Copyright Notice

- CPT Copyright 2022 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.
- CPT® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.
- Fee schedules, relative value units, conversion factors, &/or related components are not assigned by the AMA, are not part of CPT, & the AMA is not recommending their use.
- The AMA does not directly or indirectly practice medicine or dispense medical services. The AMA assumes no liability for data contained or not contained herein.
- Applicable FARS/DFARS restrictions apply to government use.

















- International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM)
- ICD-10 codes were developed by the World Health Organization (WHO)
- ICD-10-CM codes were developed and are maintained by CDC's National Center for Health Statistics
- Alpha numeric code containing 3-7 characters
- Standardized method for capturing diseases, illnesses, injuries and health conditions









- Utilized for a variety or purposes including:
 - Insurance claims submission and processing
 - Tracking public health conditions and assisting with population health management
 - Identifying care gaps and improving quality of care
 - Clinical research











HOW: ICD-10-CM codes are applied

- Criteria and instruction for code selection contained within:
 - ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting
 - https://www.cms.gov/files/document/fy-2022-icd-10-cm-coding-guidelines-updated-02012022.pdf
 - ICD-10-CM coding reference
- Adherence is required and guidelines include instruction on:
 - Locating a code
 - Detail
 - Signs & symptoms
 - Conditions and disease process relation
 - Acute vs. Chronic
 - Laterality
 - Documentation





HOW: ICD-10-CM codes are applied

- Patient specific documentation (health record) describes applicable health conditions including Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)
- Codes are divided between 22 chapters with detailed selection instruction
- Individual chapters contain related injuries, illness, conditions, etc. including poisoning and external causes
 - Examples:
 - Chapter 1: Certain Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (A00-B99)
 - Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infections
 - Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)
 - Chapter 21: Factors Influencing Health Status (Z00-Z99)
 - Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)
 - Encounters for screening purposes





HOW: ICD-10-CM codes are applied

- Codes describing social determinants of health (SDOH) should be assigned when this information is documented
- Persons with potential health hazards related to socioeconomic and psychosocial circumstances code assignment may be based on medical record documentation from clinicians involved in the care of the patient who are not the patient's provider
- Information represents social information, rather than medical diagnoses
- Social determinants of health codes are located primarily in code categories Z55-Z65
- Including:
 - Z55 Problems related to education and literacy
 - Z56 Problems related to employment and unemployment
 - Z57 Occupational exposure to risk factors
 - Z58 Problems related to physical environment
 - Z59 Problems related to housing and economic circumstances
 - Z60 Problems related to social environment







Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)



Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)









WHAT Is the HCPCS?

Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) is a standardized coding system describing services, drugs, items and supplies provided or rendered to a patient

- HCPCS is divided into two subsystems
 - Level I
 - Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)
 - Level II
 - Alpha-numeric coding system
 - Identifies drugs, biologicals, durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics and supplies (DMEPOS)





Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)

- Coding system maintained by the American Medical Association (AMA)
- Divided into three categories
 - Category I
 - 5 numeric digit codes
 - Largest category of codes, primarily those commonly used by providers to report their services and procedures



Category I code ranges arranged by related services:

Evaluation and Management 99201-99499

Anesthesiology 00100-01999, 99100-99140

• Surgery 10021-69990

Radiology 70010-79999

Pathology & Laboratory 80047-89398

• Medicine 90281-99199, 99500-99607



WHAT Is the CPT?

Category II

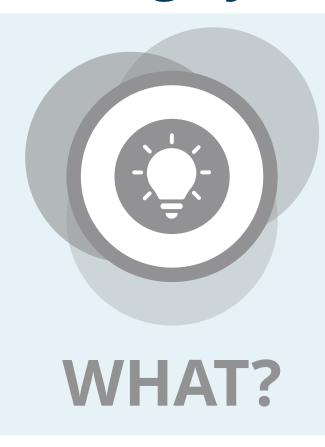
- 5 digit codes ending with the letter "F"
- Supplemental codes to report and track performance measurements

Category III

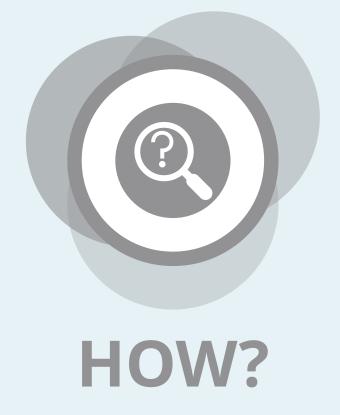
- 5 digit codes ending with the letter "T"
- Temporary codes that represent new technologies, services and procedures



Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)











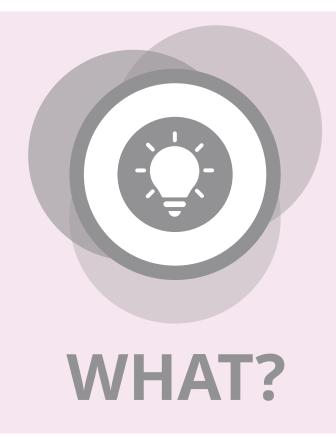
Utilized for a variety or purposes including:

- Insurance claims submission and processing
- Tracking patient outcomes
- Identifying care gaps and improving quality of care
- Medical review
- Utilization comparison
- Establishing clinical protocols and outreach processes





Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)











HOW: HCPCS codes are applied

- Criteria and instruction for code selection contained within:
 - Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)
 - HCPCS Level II
 - American Medical Association (AMA)
 - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
 - Payer guidelines and references
- Adherence is required and guidelines at the beginning of each section define items necessary to interpret and report on services in that section



HOW: HCPCS codes are applied

- Patient specific documentation (health record) describes procedures, services or supplies rendered
- Code describing applicable item or service is selected
- Modifying factors & Place of Service are also noted, taken into consideration and reported through two digit "Modifiers" and "POS" codes outlined within the HCPCS mechanism



HOW: HCPCS codes are applied

- When reporting CPT Category II codes to communicate supplemental information related to a patient/patient encounter selection, determine:
 - Numerator
 - Denominator
 - Exclusion(s)
 - Reporting instructions
- Alphabetic Measure Index found on the American Medical Association website
 - https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2020-01/cpt-cat2-codes-alpha-listing-clinical-topics.pdf



HOW: CPT Category II codes are structured

Diabetes (DM)				
Brief Description of Performance Measure & Source and Reporting Instructions	CPT Category II Code(s)	Code Descriptor(s)		
A1c Management ⁴ Whether or not patient received one or more A1c test(s) Numerator: Patients who received one or more A1c test(s)	3044F	Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level < 7.0%		
Denominator: Patients with diagnosed diabetes 18-75 years of age	▶3051F◀	► Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level greater than or equal		
Percentage of patients with diagnosed diabetes aged 18-75 years with one or more A1c test(s). Exclusion(s): NONE	▶3052F◀	to 7.0% and less than 8.0% ◀ ► Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level greater than or equal		
Reporting Instructions: In order to meet this measure, the date of test, when it was performed, and the corresponding	3046F	to 8.0% and less than or equal to 9.0% ◀ Most recent hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) level > 9.0%		
result are required. For this reason, report one of the three Category II codes listed and use the date of service as the date of the test, not the date of the reporting of the Category II code. The measure may also be met by reporting the Category I code, 83036 Hemoglobin; glycosylated (A1C), when performed.				
►To report most recent hemoglobin A1c level ≤9.0%, see codes 3044F, 3051F, 3052F. ◀				







Coding & Risk Adjustment



Risk Adjustment











WHATIs Risk Adjustment

Risk Adjustment

- System or method for which payment is based on an individual patient's:
- Demographics:
 - Age, sex, disability, Medicaid eligibility, etc.
- Health status or conditions:
 - Chronic conditions
 - Disease and disability interactions
- Various models and designs





WHAT

Are key terms used in Risk Adjustment models

Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCC)

 Categories of clinically similar diagnosis (ICD-10) codes arranged in a hierarchy by severity.

Risk Adjustment Factor (RAF)

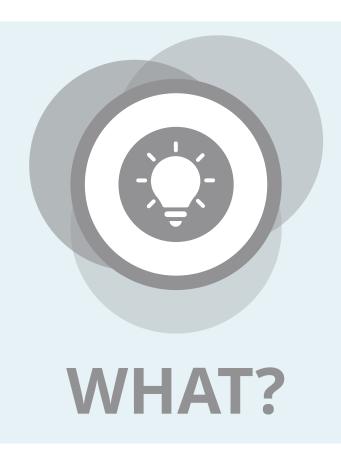
 A numeric weight assigned to specific HCC or demographic category reflecting intensity or severity of health condition or status.

Risk Adjustment Factor Score

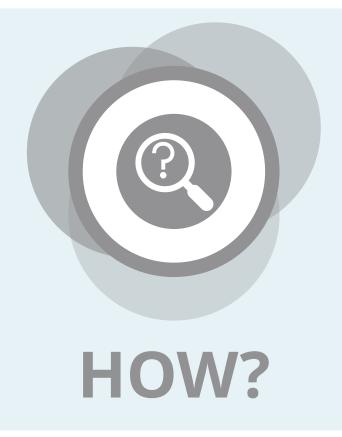
 Specific numeric score comprehensive (sum) of both the health and demographic RAF for an individual patient.



Risk Adjustment









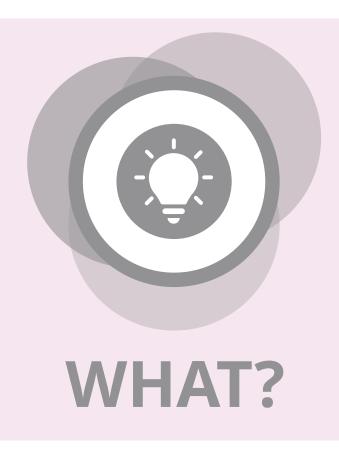


- Transitions away from standard fee-for-service considerations to a system based on predicted cost or "risk" of a patient
- May impact reimbursement from:
 - Payers (directly or indirectly)
 - Shared savings plans
- Considered to be an avenue for various value based arrangements
- Opportunity to address comprehensive care for patient
- Predictive modeling





Risk Adjustment











HOW:

Risk Adjusted Methods are determined

- Provider renders a face-to-face encounter with the patient
- Chronic conditions, health status, and other applicable factors are documented
- Appropriate ICD-10-CM codes are selected
- ICD-10-CM codes are cross walked to associated HCC
- RAFs from patient's HCC and demographic data are summed to calculate the patient's risk score
- Risk score may then be used for payment or other reporting or care purposes







Hierarchical Condition Categories



Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCC)











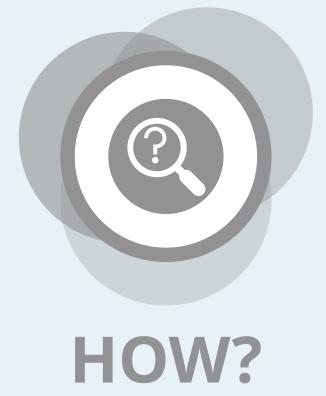
WHAT are Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCCs)?

- Groupings of clinically similar diagnoses
- Conditions are categorized hierarchically
- Each HCC is assigned a value relative to other conditions
- Used by CMS (and others) as part of determining risk or conducting a risk adjustments model



Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCC)

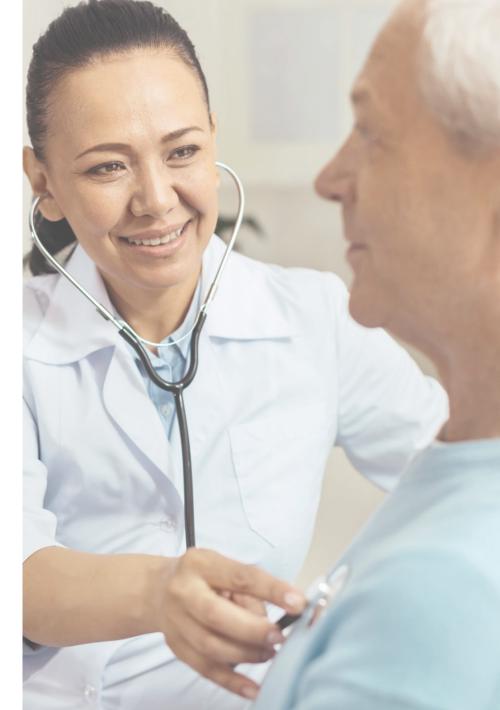






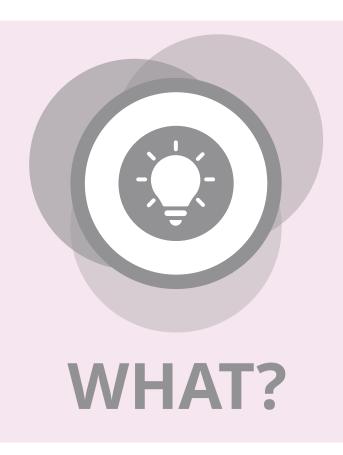


- Accurate HCCs should translate to better determination of risk score associated with individual patients
- Often impact Accountable Care Organization (ACO) benchmarking
- Can be used internally to determine specific scores to target for services or resources
- Providers directly impact HCC assigned to patient





Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCC)











HOW: **HCC** codes are determined

- Health conditions are identified via International Classification of Diseases–10 (ICD–10-CM) diagnoses that are submitted by providers on incoming claims
- ICD-10 codes map to HCC category
- Distinct HCCs are assigned specific values used to calculate individual patient risk score



HOW:

HCC coding and ICD-10-CM codes work together

ICD-10-CM Codes	HCC Category Description	нсс	Disease Hierarchy
B20, B97.35, Z21	HIV/AIDS	1	
A02.1, A20.7, A22.7, A26.7, A32.7, A39.2-A39.4, A40, A41, A42.7, A48.3, A54.86, B00.7, B37.7, P36, R57.1, R57.8, R65.1-, R65.2-, T81.12XA	Septicemia, Sepsis, Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome/ Shock	2	
A07.2, A31.0, A31.2, B25, B37.1, B37.7, B37.81, B44.0-B44.7, B44.89, B44.9, B45, B46, B48.4, B48.8, B58.2, B58.3, B59	Opportunistic Infections	6	
C77.1-C77.2, C77.4-C77.8, C78, C79.00-C79.72, C79.89, C79.9, C7B, C80.0, C91.0-, C92.00-C92.02, C92.40-C92.A2, C93.0-, C94.00-C94.22, C94.40-C94.42, C95.0-	Metastatic Cancer and Acute Leukemia	8	9, 10, 11, 12
C15, C16, C17, C22, C23, C24, C25, C33, C34, C38.4, C45, C48, C90.00-C90.22, C92.10-C92.32, C92.Z0-C92.92, C93.10-C93.92, C94.30-C94.32, C94.80-C94.82	Lung and Other Severe Cancers	9	10, 11, 12
C40, C41, C46, C47, C49, C56, C57.00-C57.4, C58, C70, C71, C72, C74, C75.1-C75.3, C77.3, C77.9, C79.2, C79.81, C79.82, C81, C82, C83, C84, C85, C88.2-C88.9, C90.3-, C91, C95.10-C95.92, C96	Lymphoma and Other Cancers	10	11, 12
C01, C02, C03, C04, C05, C06, C07, C08, C09, C10, C11, C12, C13, C14, C18, C19, C20, C21, C26, C30, C31, C32, C37, C38.0-C38.3, C38.8, C39, C51, C52, C53, C57.7-C57.9, C64, C65, C66, C67, C68	Colorectal, Bladder, and Other Cancers	11	12
C43, C4A, C50, C54, C55, C60, C61, C62, C63, C69, C73, C75.0, C75.4-C75.9, C76, C7A, C80.1, C80.2, D03, D18.02, D32, D33, D35.2-D35.4, D42, D43, D44.3-D44.7, D49.6, E34.0, Q85	Breast, Prostate, and Other Cancers and Tumors	12	
FOO O FOO 1 FOO CA1 FOO O FOO 1 FOO CA1 F10 1 F10 CA1 F11 0 F11 1 F11 CA1	Dishatas with Assits	1-7	10.10



HOW: to assist with accurate HCC coding

- Assign all ICD-10 codes to the highest level of specificity possible
- Maintain an accurate and up-to-date problem list
- Address (in face-to-face encounter), document and code for all chronic conditions every year
 - Scores are reset January 1st of each year in some plans



HOW:

to assist with accurate HCC coding

Tips or Tools for documenting chronic conditions:

M Monitoring signs, symptoms, disease progression, disease regression

Evaluated test results, medication effectiveness, response to treatment

A Addressed ordered tests, discussion, review records, counseling

Treated medications, therapies, other modalities





HOW:

to assist with accurate HCC coding

Tips or Tools for documenting chronic conditions:

TAMPER

T Treatment

A Assessment

M Monitoring or Medicate

P Plan

E Evaluate

R Referral

https://ionhealthcarepulse.com/2016/09/28/faqs-on-risk-adjustment/

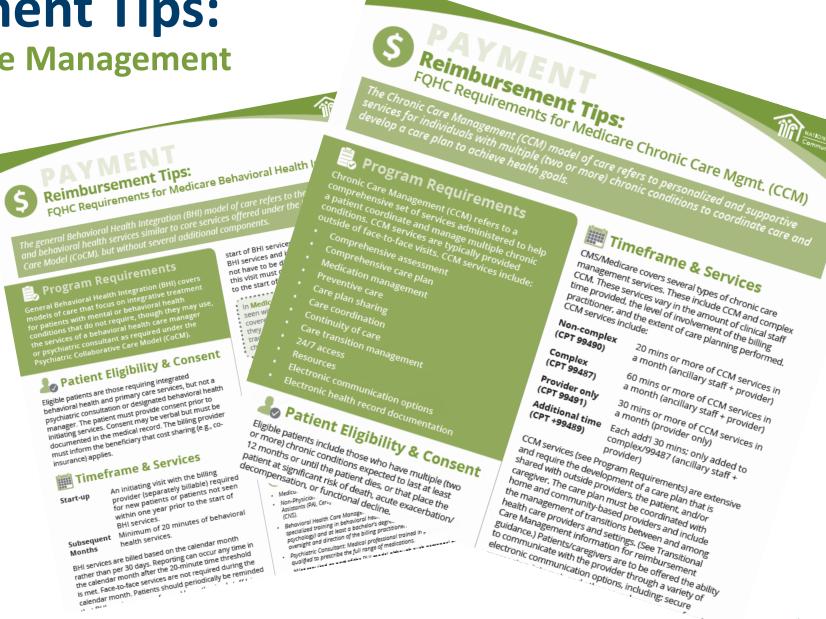


Reimbursement Tips:

CMS/Medicare Care Management

This compendium of care management tools is available free of charge on NACHC's Elevate platform







UPCOMING EVENTS



June 14. Learning Forum

VTF Change Area: Care Management (Part 2)

CMS Chronic Care Management (CCM), Complex Chronic Care Management (CCCM), & Principal Care Management

June 23. Elevate Connect



6

VTF Change Area: Evidence-Based Care, Diabetes Self-Management

Education and Support





FEEDBACK

Don't forget! Let us know what you thought about today's session.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

qualitycenter@nachc.org

Cheryl Modica
Director, Quality Center
National Association of Community
Health Centers
cmodica@nachc.org
301.310.2250

Next Monthly Forum Call:

June 14, 2022 1-2 pm ET

Next Connect Call:

June 23, 2022 1-1:45 pm ET

