Managing Data Quality

CODING GUIDELINES - JANUARY 1998

Old Myocardial Infarction
Old Myocardial Infarction - should it be coded in addition to any ischaemic heart disease? It has been decided that if old MI is listed in the clinical statement then it should be coded in addition to any ischaemic heart disease, as this gives a fuller picture. Coders must therefore amend their Clinical Coding Instruction Manual p IX-19 exercise no 9.

Chronic Coronary Insufficiency; Old Myocardial Infarction
The correct codes are I25.8 and I25.2

Ante Partum Haemorrhage
When is a haemorrhage in pregnancy classified as bleeding in early pregnancy and when as ante partum haemorrhage?

The cut-off period is 24 completed weeks gestation. Before this period code to O20.- Haemorrhage in early pregnancy

After this period i.e. 24 completed weeks and above, code to O46.- Ante partum haemorrhage, not elsewhere classified

Presumptive Diagnoses
In the "Clinical Coding Guidelines" of May, 1996, guidelines were given about the coding of terms "probable", "possible", "suspected" or "query". We have been asked about the term "presumptive" and have decided that it should be treated in the same way as "probable" i.e. if the clinician who provided the information cannot be contacted in an attempt to confirm the diagnosis, code the condition

Example -
Presumptive asthma - code asthma

Proctoscopy
A proctoscope is a speculum not an endoscope. Therefore the codes used for proctoscopy are as follows
H41.9 - Unspecified operation on rectum through anus (for therapeutic)
H62.8 - Other specified operation on bowel (for diagnostic or NEC).

Tension Band Wiring of a fracture of the patella
Tension band wiring is a type of internal fixation used to stabilise a fracture of the patella. The patella is the small circular sesamoid bone forming the kneecap and as such has no medulla, so this cannot be classified as an intramedullary fixation. The correct codes to be assigned for tension band wiring of a fracture of the patella are
W21.4 - Primary intraarticular fixation of intraarticular fracture of bone nec; with Z78.7 - Patella

Main contact: Joyce McAdie

Page printed from: