Insights to Coding and Data Quality

CMS proposes new ICD-9-CM procedure codes for FY2014
by Nancy J. Cervi, RHIT

As part of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Proposed Rule process, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published four new proposed ICD-9-CM procedure codes that would become effective October 1, 2013. These were presented and discussed at the March, 2013 ICD-9-CM Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meeting. Their recommendations were not finalized to be included in the proposed rule; however, it is anticipated these changes will be in the final rule. As part of the partial code freeze for ICD-9-CM and ICD-10, on October 1, 2013 there will be only limited code updates to both the ICD-9-CM and ICD-10 code sets to capture new technologies and diseases as required by section 503(a) of Pub. L. 108-173.

New code 00.96 Infusion of 4-Factor Prothrombin Complex Concentrate Infusion of 4F-PCC. Currently this is coded 99.06 Transfusion of coagulation factors. Upon FDA approval, Kcentra™ will be the first and only 4-factor prothrombin complex concentrate that is FDA-approved for rapid warfarin reversal in patients experiencing an acute major bleed. According to the manufacturer, Kcentra™ represents a substantial clinical improvement in the treatment of patients with acute severe bleeding who require immediate reversal of their warfarin therapy by 1) providing a rapid, beneficial resolution of the patient’s blood clotting factor deficiency, 2) decreasing the risk of exposure to blood borne pathogens, and 3) reducing the rate of transfusion-associated complications.

New subcategory 14.8 Implantation of epiretinal visual prosthesis
Currently, there are no ICD-9-CM procedure codes that clearly capture the procedures involving the implant of an epiretinal visual prosthesis to restore vision. This procedure is currently being considered for a New Technology Add-on Payment for FY 2014. The Argus® II System consists of an epiretinal implant that is fully implanted in and around the eye, a video camera mounted on a pair of glasses, and a control unit that is worn or carried by the patient. The system provides electrical stimulation of the retina to induce visual perception in blind patients (analogous to a cochlear implant for the restoration of hearing). It is indicated for use in patients with severe to profound retinitis pigmentosa with bare or no light perception in both eyes.

New code 14.81 Implantation of epiretinal visual prosthesis
Note: Includes lens removal, if present, scleral buckling, vitrectomy, epiretinal membrane peeling and pericardial grafting

New code 14.82 Removal of epiretinal visual prosthesis
Includes 360-degree limbal peritomy and vitrectomy, if performed, and device extraction

New code 14.83 Revision of epiretinal visual prosthesis
Includes tack replacement, device relocation, and/or replacement of pericardial grafting, if needed.

To learn more about these new procedure codes, detailed information can be found in the meeting minutes located at
http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD9ProviderDiagnosticCodes/meetings.html.

Also included in these meeting minutes are the proposed updates to International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) diagnosis codes as well as proposed updates to the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Procedural Coding System (ICD-10-PCS) code set.

For information on the FY2014 Proposed ICD-9-CM tabular addenda as well as proposed indexing changes, go to http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD9ProviderDiagnosticCodes/addendum.html.

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