



## ICD-10 Coding Tip

# Laterality

In an effort to aid Health Information Management Coding and Medical Billing Professionals with ICD-10, the following training tip is provided with an educational intent

Some ICD-10-CM codes indicate laterality, specifying whether the condition occurs on the left, right or is bilateral.

Example:

Simple chronic conjunctivitis, right eye (H10.421)

Simple chronic conjunctivitis, left eye (H10.422)

Simple chronic conjunctivitis, bilateral (H10.423)

Simple chronic conjunctivitis, unspecified eye (H10.429)

- If no bilateral code is provided and the condition is bilateral, assign separate codes for both the left and right side.
- If the side is not identified in the medical record, assign the code for the unspecified side.

*Coding Clinic* is the official resource and authority for ICD-10 coding rules and conventions.

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