ICD-10-CM Coding Tip

Diabetes Mellitus

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.

- In ICD-10-CM, the diabetes mellitus codes are combination codes that include the type of diabetes mellitus, the body system affected and the complications affecting that body system;
  - There are five categories for coding diabetes mellitus: E08 Diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition
    - E09 Drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus
    - E10 Type 1 Diabetes mellitus
  - E11 Type 2 Diabetes mellitus
  - E13 Other specified diabetes mellitus;
  - Assign as many codes as necessary from categories E08-E13 to completely describe the patient’s condition;
  - If the type of diabetes mellitus is not documented in the medical record, the default code is E11.-, type 2 diabetes mellitus;
  - The note under categories E09, E09, E11, and E13 stating “Use additional code to identify any insulin use (Z79.4.)”
    - This code wouldn’t be assigned with diabetes mellitus type 1 cases because insulin is required to sustain life.
    - Code Z79.4 is not assigned when insulin is used for temporary blood sugar control during the current encounter.
  - The subterms in the Index for “poorly controlled,” “inadequately controlled” and “out of control” are classified to:
    - Diabetes, by type, with hyperglycemia;
      - Example: Poorly controlled type 2 diabetes with diabetic neuralgia would require two codes:
        - E11.42 – Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic polyneuropathy
        - E11.65 – Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperglycemia

- Complications due to insulin pump malfunction:
  - Coding for overdose of insulin due to insulin pump failure:
    1) T85.6- Mechanical complication of the pump,
    2) T38.3x6- Underdosing of insulin;
    3) Diabetes type;
    4) Code if any associated with the overdose complications
      - Codes T85.6-, T38.3x6- or T38.3x1- require the appropriate seventh character to describe the encounter type
        (A: initial encounter, D: subsequent encounter, S: sequela);
  - Coding for overdose of insulin due to insulin pump failure:
    5) T85-6- Mechanical complication of the pump,
    6) T38.3x1- Accidental (unintentional) poisoning by insulin;
    7) Diabetes type;
    8) Code if any associated with the overdose complications

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