



Root Operation: Detachment

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.

With PCS coding, the third character defines the root operation, or the objective of the procedure. The Root Operation Value Detachment is 6.

Definition of Detachment: Cutting off all or part of the upper or lower extremities

Objective: Cutting off without replacement

Site of procedure: Extremities only

Explanation: Detachment procedure codes are found only in body systems X and Y because amputations are performed on extremities, across overlapping body areas.

Examples of detachment: Below knee amputation, disarticulation of shoulder, amputation above elbow, transmetatarsal amputation of foot at right big toe.

Coding Example: Amputation at left elbow level - 0X6C0ZZ

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

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