Excludes 2 Means: Not Included Here

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

ICD-10-CM has two types of excludes notes which are designated as Excludes 1 or Excludes 2.

- Excludes 2 means “NOT INCLUDED HERE”. The Excludes 2 note instructs that the condition excluded is not part of the condition represented by the code.
- The two conditions can occur together.
- The patient may have both conditions at the same time.
- It is acceptable to use both the code and any of the Excludes 2 codes that appear listed under the code if the patient has the conditions.

Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M 25.5 - Pain in Joint</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excludes 2: Pain in Hand (M79.64-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain in Fingers (M79.64-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain in Foot (M79.67-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain in Toes (M70.67-)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this example code M25.5 - Pain in Joint, may be coded together with any of the codes listed under the Excludes 2.

Source: ICD-10-CM Draft Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting 2015
Chicago, IL: AHA Press

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

This tip sheet was developed in collaboration with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan, a non-profit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. This overview is intended as an educational tool only and should not be relied upon as legal or compliance advice. If you have any legal questions about the information contained herein, you should consult your attorney or other professional legal services provider.

California Health Information Association, AHIMA Affiliate, 2016.