Anatomy Tip

Carpal Bones

In an effort to aid Health Information Management Coding Professionals for ICD-10, the following anatomy tip is provided with an educational intent.

The Carpal bones are eight bones composing two transverse rows or three longitudinal columns between the ulna/radius and the metacarpal bones. The pair of rows form an arch which is convex in the proximal portion and concave in the distal portion. Seven of the eight carpal bones have six surfaces, the exception is the Pisiform bone.

TIP: Coding fractures of the carpal bones in ICD-10 CM requires additional information of the fracture site for the Hamate and Navicular bones:

- Capitate (os magnum)
- Hamate (unciform)
  - Body
  - Hook Process
- Lunate
- Navicular (scaphoid)
  - Distal pole
  - Middle third
  - Proximal third
- Pisiform
- Trapezoid (smaller multangular)
- Trapezium (larger multangular)
- Triquetrum (cuneiform)

This Anatomy and Physiology tip sheet was developed by the CHIA Coding and Data Quality Committee as an educational resource 2012. Copyright © California Health Information Association, 2012.