



## ICD-10 Coding Tip

# Root Operation - Change

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.

**Definition:** Taking out [or off] a device from a body part and putting back an identical or similar device in [or on] the same body part without cutting or puncturing the skin or a mucous membrane.

**Explanation:** All CHANGE procedures are coded using the approach external.

*Examples:* Urinary catheter change, gastrostomy tube change, tracheostomy tube exchange, and exchange of ventriculostomy drainage tube.

**External:** The definition for the External approach provided in the 2014 ICD-10 PCS Manual is “Procedures performed indirectly on the skin or mucous membrane and procedures performed indirectly by the application of external force through the skin or mucous membrane.”

**Objective:** *To exchange a similar device without making a new incision or puncture.*

**Tip:** *One of the key components of the root operation of change is that the procedure will always involve a device.*

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

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