ICD-10-PCS Code Updates for October 1, 2016

Summary of New and Revised ICD-10-PCS Codes as of March 9, 2016

The October 1, 2016 update will include the backlog of all proposals for changes to the code set proposed via the ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee process during the partial code freeze, and receiving public support.

Partial Code Freeze

• The last regular, annual updates to both ICD-9-CM and ICD-10 code sets were made on October 1, 2011.

• On October 1, 2012, October 1, 2013, and October 1, 2014 there were only limited code updates to both the ICD-9-CM and ICD-10 code sets to capture new technologies and diseases as required by section 503(a) of Pub. L. 108-173.

• On October 1, 2015, ICD-10 was implemented and there were only limited code updates to ICD-10 code sets to capture new technologies and diagnoses as required by section 503(a) of Pub. L. 108-173. There were no updates to ICD-9-CM, as it will no longer be used for reporting.

• On October 1, 2016 (one year after implementation of ICD-10), regular updates to ICD-10 will begin.

Summary of ICD-10-PCS Updates from Partial Code Freeze

There are a total of 75,625 valid ICD-10-PCS codes for the FY 2017 update as of March 9, 2016. This includes 3,651 new codes which will be added, and 487 code titles which will be revised. The lists of new and revised code titles is included in the postings on CMS’ website for the March 9, 2016 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee.

Of the codes added, 3,549 new codes (97% of the total update) are cardiovascular system codes. Of the new cardiovascular system codes, 3084 new codes (84% of the total update) resulted from a group of proposals to create unique device values for multiple intraluminal devices and to apply the qualifier Bifurcation to multiple root operation tables for all artery body part values. Other cardiovascular system proposals include more specific body part values for the thoracic aorta, specific table values that uniquely capture congenital cardiac procedures, and codes involving placement of an intravascular neurostimulator.

All code titles revised are in the Heart and Great Vessels body system, and result from changing coronary artery number of sites to specify number of vessels, and modifying the previously non-specific thoracic aorta body part to specify descending thoracic aorta.

Other proposals that resulted in new codes are in the lower joint body systems, for expanding the body part detail available in the root operations Removal and Revision, and adding unique codes for unicodylar knee replacement. There are also new codes for intracranial administration of substances (such as the Gliadel chemotherapy wafer) using an open approach. There are planned new codes for face transplant, hand transplant and donor organ perfusion.
ICD-10-PCS codes discussed at the March 9 – 10, 2016 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee meeting will also be evaluated for implementation on October 1, 2016 after the comment period closes. These additional codes are not included in the totals mentioned above. Now that the Partial Code Freeze has ended, all current and future ICD-10-PCS code proposals will be considered for implementation during the following fiscal year.