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CMS Releases New ICD-9 Codes Effective October 1, 2010

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently published the listings of new, invalid and revised ICD-9 Procedure Codes that will become effective October 1, 2010. The list contains over 130 new codes, in addition to 11 invalid codes and 10 revised codes.

Approximately one third of the new codes are “V” codes which are used to classify supplemental factors influencing health status. Over 15 of these new “V” codes deal specifically with multiple gestation pregnancies.

Five new codes have been added for body mass index (BMI) to specifically delineate the patient's BMI. Previously, the ICD-9 contained only one code for BMI over 40. The new codes offer ICD-9 codes for specific ranges of BMI. This is important because some providers believe that BMI should be one of the criteria in the Evaluation & Management (E&M) systems overview, especially in the fields of bariatric and sports medicine.

Additionally, new codes have been added for Gastroenterology, OB/Gyn, Cardiology and Orthopedics, as well as other specialties.

For the complete list of code changes, see the CMS website at:
http://www.cms.gov/ICD9ProviderDiagnosticCodes/07_summarytables.asp.

The complete Federal Register article should be made available soon at www.federal-register.gov.

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