



## **ICD-10 Diagnosis Documentation Tips – Otolaryngology**

### **Enhanced Specificity in ICD-10-CM:**

- ❖ Acute serous otitis media: (new axes of classification): now requires
  - Status: recurrent or not
  - Laterality: R, L, or bilateral

### **Injury Codes:** hierarchical organization

- ❖ Injuries to Single Body Regions Chapter 19
  - Injuries to the head S00-S09
    - Superficial S00
      - Nose S00.3
        - ◆ Insect bite S00.36
          - Initial encounter S00.36A
- ❖ Key documentation component: nature of encounter
  - Initial, subsequent or sequela

### **Acute Injuries:**

- ❖ If known, please document the following:
  - Nature of injury [example: fall from tree, initial encounter]
  - Place [example: public park as place of occurrence]
  - Activity [example: climbing, not elsewhere classified]
  - Status [example: leisure activity]

## **ICD-10 [INPATIENT] Procedural Coding Tips – Otolaryngology**

### **Characters:**

- ❖ Section – almost always medical/surgical
- ❖ Body system – should be self evident from your description
- ❖ Root operation – describes the intent of the procedure
  - Resection – removal of all of a body part



- Excision – removal of a portion of a body part
  - Note: a biopsy is coded as an excision
- ❖ Body part – describe with anatomic specificity, laterality if applies
  - Right or left lobe of the thyroid
- ❖ Approach – open, percutaneous, percutaneous endoscopic, via natural orifice, via natural orifice endoscopic, via natural orifice, endoscopic, with percutaneous endoscopic assistance
- ❖ Device
  - Describe as specifically as possible any device left in the patient
  - Example: cochlear prosthesis
    - “Hearing device, bone conduction”
    - “Hearing device, single channel”
    - “Hearing device, multiple channel”
    - “Hearing device, not further specified”
- ❖ Qualifier – If “diagnostic” procedure, document.

**Recommendation:** Be sure to describe the procedures performed on individual body parts:

- ❖ Example: Uvulopalatopharyngoplasty
  - Tonsillectomy
  - Uvulectomy
  - Removal portion of soft palate
  - Repair soft palate

**Terminology:** Be cautious about using eponyms or global terminology

- ❖ Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery (FESS)
  - Identify with anatomic specificity sinus(es) addressed
  - Identify specifically the intent of the operation..
    - Resection
    - Excision
    - Drainage