



ICD-10 Diagnosis Documentation Tips – Plastic Surgery

Increased Specificity:

❖ Anatomic Specificity & Laterality

- Example: Pressure ulcers
 - ANATOMIC SPECIFICITY: in ICD-10 “back” split into upper, lower, sacral and coccygeal
 - LATERALITY: L, R, bilateral (where appropriate)
 - STAGE: Stages I-V, now captured with pressure ulcer code

❖ Pathophysiology and anatomy

- Example: Congenital anomalies of skull / face (ICD-9 – 1 code)
 - Enhanced ICD-10 specificity: Craniosynostosis, craniofacial dysostosis, hypertelorism, macrocephaly, mandibulofacial dysostosis, etc.

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 – Plastic Surgery

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
 - Alteration – cosmetic surgery
 - Example: abdominoplasty
 - Creation – sex change surgery
- ❖ Body part – describe with anatomic specificity, laterality if applies
- ❖ Approach – open, percutaneous, percutaneous endoscopic
- ❖ Device
 - Describe as specifically as possible any device left in the patient
 - Breast surgery: synthetic substitute, autologous tissue, etc.
 - Hand surgery: internal fixation device, external fixation device, synthetic substitute (MCP prosthesis)
- ❖ Qualifier – If diagnostic procedure, document.

Suggestion: describe the procedures performed on individual body parts:

- ❖ Layered repair eyelid, left and closure superficial laceration face
 - Code as two procedures

Flaps: we must communicate the operative process

- ❖ **Free tissue flap:** coded as a “replacement”
- ❖ **Pedicle tissue flap:** coded as a “transfer”