



ICD-10 Diagnosis Documentation Tips – Trauma Surgery

Code Expansion in ICD-10:

- ❖ **Etiologic specificity:** example - acute pancreatitis
 - Idiopathic, biliary, alcohol-induced, drug-induced, other, unspecified
- ❖ **Anatomic Specificity:**
 - Example: Thigh wound with tendon involvement
 - Hip muscle, quadriceps muscle, adductor muscle, posterior thigh muscle, other specified muscle, unspecified
- ❖ **LATERALITY:** Right, left, bilateral (some conditions)

Cerebral Edema: ICD-9 (only one code); ICD-10 (33 codes)

- ❖ Type:
 - Due to birth injury, of newborn, traumatic (30 codes), unspecified
- ❖ Subtype: traumatic
 - LOC: <30 min, 31-59 min, 2-6 hr, 6-24 hr, >24 hr w/o return to prior LOC (surviving), LOC any duration with brain death, LOC any duration with death due to other cause
- ❖ Further specificity: nature of encounter
 - Initial, subsequent, sequel
- ❖ Note: trauma coding now includes Glasgow Coma Scale (assessed at a point in time or as a total score: See R40.2.)

Acute Injuries: If known, document the following:

- **Nature of injury** [example: MVA car vs. pedestrian]
- **Place** [example: interstate highway]
- **Activity** [example: talking on cellphone]
- **Status** [example: while engaged in work activity]



ICD-10 [INPATIENT] Procedural Coding Tips – Trauma 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
 - Drainage – paracentesis, etc., (document if diagnostic)
 - Bypass
 - Definition bypass: altering the route of passage of the contents of a tubular body part
 - Indicate the “from” – descending colon
 - Indicate the “to” - cutaneous
- ❖ Body part – describe with anatomic specificity, laterality if applies
- ❖ 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
- ❖ Qualifier – If diagnostic procedure be sure to state so

Describe the procedures you perform on individual body parts:

- Example: A typical multiple trauma could include:
 - Splenectomy
 - Repair superficial laceration left lobe liver
 - Open Femoral Nailing Right Femur
 - Open reduction internal fixation fx shaft humerus, R
 - Endotracheal intubation
 - Mechanical ventilation <24 hours
 - Colostomy
- Make sure to include in D/C summary all procedures performed by colleagues as well