ICD-10-PCS – Root Operation Review

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Webinar Series – ICD-10-CM/ICD-10-PCS

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Objectives

• Review the 31 root operations used in the Medical and Surgical section of ICD-10-PCS.
• Define each of the Medical and Surgical section 31 root operations.
• Review 2013 guidelines specific to root operations.
• Apply the definitions to commonly performed procedures.
# The 2013 Web-Based Version of ICD-10-PCS

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1. Root Operations That Take Out Some/All of a Body Part

- **Excision** - Cutting out or off, without replacement, a portion of a body part
- **Resection** - Cutting out or off, without replacement, all of a body part
- **Detachment** - Cutting off all or part of the upper or lower extremities
- **Destruction** - Physical eradication of all or a portion of a body part by the direct use of energy, force or a destructive agent
- **Extraction** - Pulling or stripping out or off all or a portion of a body part by the use of force
• Excision-Cutting out or off, without replacement, *a portion of a body part*
• The qualifier Diagnostic is used to identify excision procedures that are biopsies
  – Exception – bone marrow and endometrial biopsies - Extraction
• Guidelines
  – B3.9 – Excision for Graft- If an autograft is obtained from a different body part in order to complete the objective of the procedure, a separate procedure is coded.
• Examples
  – Excision of a malignant melanoma from the skin of the right arm
  – EGD with biopsy of the duodenum
  – Colonoscopy with removal of polyps
  – Needle core biopsy of the left kidney
Resection (T)

- Resection-Cutting out or off, without replacement, *all of a body part*
- Guideline B3.8 Excision vs. Resection – PCS contains specific body parts for anatomical subdivisions of a body part, such as lobes of the lungs or liver and regions of the intestines. Resection of the specific body part is coded whenever all of the body part is cut out of off, rather than coding of Excision of a less specific body part
  - Example – Left upper lung lobectomy is coded to Resection of Upper Lung Lobe, Left rather than Excision, Lung, Left
- Examples
  - Excision of the pituitary gland via incision
  - Total mastectomy, left side
  - Laparoscopic cholecystectomy
  - Radical prostatectomy
Detachment (6)

- Detachment-Cutting off all or part of the upper or lower extremities
- The body part value is the site of the detachment, with a qualifier if applicable to further specify the level where the extremity was detached
- Qualifiers – upper and lower extremities
  - Upper arm and leg
  - 1 – High: amputation at the proximal portion of the shaft of the humerus or femur
  - 2-Mid: amputation at the middle portion of the shaft of the humerus or femur
  - Low: amputation at the distal portion of the shaft of the humerus or femur
  - These definitions are applicable to the lower arm and leg with those bones specified
  - Also for the thumb, finger or toe
  - Documentation is key
• Destruction—Physical eradication of all or a portion of a body part by the direct use of energy, force or a destructive agent
• None of the body part is taken out, instead it is obliterated in some way
• Anywhere in the body for a variety of conditions
• Examples
  – Cryotherapy
  – Cautery
  – Radiofrequency
  – Coagulation
  – Sclerotherapy
  – Fulguration
  – Ablation
  – Laser destruction
Extraction (D)

- Extraction—Pulling or stripping out or off all or a portion of a body part by the use of force
- The qualifier Diagnostic is used to identify extraction procedures that are biopsies
- Minor cutting is included if objective is still pulling or striping
- Examples
  - Non-excisional debridement of a skin ulcer
  - Extraction of an lens of the right eye (without IOL insertion)
  - Hysteroscopy with D & C, diagnostic
  - Bone marrow biopsy
  - Needle aspiration of ova for in-vitro fertilization via laparoscopy
What is the Root Operation ..........???

This procedure includes dilation of the cervix and removal of endometrial tissue for biopsy. What is the root operation?

A. Excision
B. Resection
C. Destruction
D. Extraction
2. Root Operations that Take Out Solids/Fluids/Gases

- **Drainage**: Taking or letting out fluids and/or gases from a body part
- **Extirpation**: Taking or cutting out solid matter from a body part
- **Fragmentation**: Breaking solid matter in a body part into pieces
Drainage (9)

• Drainage- Taking or letting out fluids and/or gases from a body part
• The qualifier Diagnostic is used to identify excision procedures that are biopsies
• Drainage is used for both diagnostic and therapeutic drainage procedures
• If the drainage is accompanied by a catheter, Drainage Device is coded as the 6th character
• Examples
  – Incision and Drainage of Perianal abscess
  – Thoracentesis of a pleural effusion on the right side
  – Needle drainage of ascites
  – Arthrotomy and placement of a drain
  – Routine Foley catheter placement
Extirpation (C)

• Extirpation - Taking or cutting out solid matter from a body part
• Solid matter may be an abnormal byproduct of a biological function or a foreign body
• Solid matter may be embedded in a body part or the lumen of a tubular body part
• May have been previously broken into pieces
• Examples
  – Thrombectomy
  – Endarterectomy
  – Choledocholithotomy
  – Transurethral cystoscopy with removal of bladder stone
Fragmentation (F)

- Fragmentation- Breaking solid matter in a body part into pieces
- Physical force applied directly or indirectly (e.g. manual, ultrasonic) to break the solid matter into pieces
- Solid matter may be an abnormal byproduct of a biological function or a foreign body
- Pieces of solid matter are not taken out
- Includes direct and extracorporeal fragmentation procedures
- Examples
  - EWSL of kidney
  - ERCP
  - Hysteroscopy with intraluminal lithotripsy of left fallopian tube calcification
3. Root Operations Involving Cutting/Separation Only

• Division-Cutting into a body part, without draining fluids and/or gases from the body part, in order to separate or transect a body part

• Release- Freeing a body part from an abnormal physical constraint by cutting or the use of force
Division (8)

- Division-Cutting into a body part, without draining fluids and/or gases from the body part, in order to separate or transect a body part
- All or a portion of the body part is separated into two or more portions
- Objective is cut into, transect or otherwise separate all or a portion of a body part
- Examples
  - Open osteotomy of the bone of the left hand
  - EGD with esophagotomy of esophagogastric junction
  - Anal sphincterotomy
  - Division of the tendon of the left foot
  - Severing a nerve root
Release (N)

• Release- Freeing a body part from an abnormal physical constraint by cutting or by the use of force
• Some of the restraining tissue may be taken out but none of the body part is taken out
• Objective of the procedure is to free the body part
• Can be performed on the area around a body part, on the attachments to a body part or between subdivisions of a body part
• Guidelines
  – B3.14 if sole objective is freeing, Release. If sole objective is separating or transecting - Division
  – B3.13 body part value for what is being freed, not the tissue being manipulated or cut to free the body part
• Examples
  – Freeing a spinal nerve root to relieve pain
  – Lysis of adhesions
  – Mitral valvulotomy
4. Root Operations that Put in/Put Back Some/All of Body Part

- Transplantation-Putting in or on all or a portion of a living body part taken from another individual or animal to physically take the place and/or function of all or a portion of a similar body part
- Reattachment-Putting back in or on all or a portion of a separated body part to its normal location or other suitable location
- Transfer-Moving, without taking out, all or a portion of a body part to another location to take over the function of all or a portion of a body part
- Reposition-Moving to its normal location, or other suitable location, all or a portion of a body part
Transplantation (Y)

• Transplantation—Putting in or on all or a portion of a living body part taken from another individual or animal to physically take the place and/or function of all or a portion of a similar body part
• The native body part may or may not be taken out, and the transplanted body part may take over all or a portion of its function
• Small number of procedures represented for current transplants
  – NOT bone marrow, cornea
  – Guideline B3.16- Transplant = mature and functioning body part
• Qualifiers for genetic compatibility
  – 0 – Allogeneic – same species
  – 1- Syngeneic – same genes
  – 2 – Zooplastic – from an animal
• Examples
  – Bilateral lung transplant from a cadaver donor
  – Right kidney and pancreas transplant
Reattachment (M)

- Reattachment - Putting back in or on all or a portion of a separated body part to its normal location or other suitable location
- Vascular circulation and nervous pathways may or may not be reestablished
- Putting back a body part that has been cut off or avulsed
- Examples
  - Reattachment of a severed left ear
  - Reattachment of a severed right hand
  - Complex reattachment of a right thumb
Transfer (X)

• Transfer-Moving, without taking out, all or a portion of a body part to another location to take over the function of all or a portion of a body part
• The body part transferred stays connected to its vascular and nervous supply
• Body system value represents the deepest tissue layer in the flap
• Qualifier value describes the other tissue layers, if applicable
• Advancement flap, pedicle graft...
• If graft is removed from blood and nerve supply = Replacement
• Examples
  – Endoscopic radial to median nerve transfer
  – Post-mastectomy bilateral TRAM pedicle flap reconstruction
  – Skin transfer flap closure of complex open wound, right lower back
Reposition (S)

• Reposition-Moving to its normal location, or other suitable location, all or a portion of a body part
• Body part is moved to a new location from an abnormal location or a location where it is functioning correctly
• Body part may or may not be cut off to be moved to the new location
• Example
  – Repair of undescended testicles
  – Open reduction with internal fixation, fracture of the right femur
• Coding Guideline B3.15- Reduction of a displaced fracture is coded to the root operation Reposition and the application of a cast or splint in conjunction with the Reposition procedure is not coded separately. Treatment of a nondisplaced fracture is coded to the procedure performed
What is the Root Operation ........???

Percutaneous thrombolyisis with mechanical thrombectomy, right brachial artery

A. Drainage
B. Fragmentation
C. Extirpation
D. Fragmentation and Extirpation
5. Root Operations That Alter the Diameter/Route

- **Restriction** - Partially closing an orifice or the lumen of a tubular body part
- **Occlusion** - Completely closing an orifice or the lumen of a tubular body part
- **Dilation** - Expanding an orifice or the lumen of a tubular body part
- **Bypass** - Altering the route of passage of the contents of a tubular body part
Restriction (V)

• Restriction-Partially closing an orifice or the lumen of a tubular body part
• The orifice can be a natural or artificially created orifice
• Objective is to narrow the diameter of a tubular body part or orifice
• Includes both intraluminal and extraluminal methods for narrowing
• Examples
  – Laparoscopic gastroesophageal fundoplication
  – Craniotomy with clipping of a cerebral aneurysm
  – Banding of the right pulmonary artery with and extraluminal device, via thoracotomy
  – Cervical cerclage
  – Placement of a restrictive stent in the lacrimal duct of the left side
Occlusion (L)

• Occlusion-Completely closing an orifice or the lumen of a tubular body part
• The orifice can be a natural or artificially created orifice
• Objective is to close off a tubular body part or orifice
• Includes both intraluminal and extraluminal methods for narrowing
• Division of the tubular body part prior to closing is an integral part of the Occlusion procedure
• Examples
  – Ligation of an esophageal vein, percutaneous technique
  – Embolization of vascular supply to an intracranial meningioma
  – Laparoscopic occlusion of the fallopian tubes with extraluminal clips
Occlusion vs. Restriction for Vessel Embolization

- Coding Guideline B3.12
- If the objective of an embolization procedure is to completely close a vessel, the root operation Occlusion is coded.
- If the objective of an embolization procedure is to narrow the lumen of a vessel, the root operation Restriction is coded.
- Examples
  - Tumor embolization is coded to the root operation Occlusion because the objective of the procedure is to cut off the blood supply to the vessel.
  - Embolization of a cerebral aneurysm is coded to the root operation Restriction, because the objective of the procedure is not to close off the vessel entirely, but to narrow the lumen of the vessel at the site of the aneurysm where it is abnormally wide.
- *** Analyze the documentation to determine the objective
Dilation (7)

• Dilation-Expanding an orifice or the lumen of a tubular body part
• The orifice may be a natural orifice or an artificially created orifice
• Accomplished by stretching a tubular body part using intraluminal pressure or by cutting part of the orifice or wall of the tubular body part
• Objective is enlarging the diameter of a tubular body part or orifice
• Includes both intraluminal and extraluminal methods of enlarging the diameter
• Device placement is an integral part of the Dilation - 6th character
• Examples
  – Hysteroscopy with balloon dilation of fallopian tubes, bilateral
  – EGD with dilation of esophageal stenosis
  – PTA of brachial stenosis on the left side
  – * PTCA of three coronary arteries, with stent placement in the LAD
Coding Guideline B4.4

- **Coronary Arteries**
- The coronary arteries are classified as a single body part that is further specified by number or sites treated and not by the name or number of arteries.
- Separate body part values are used to specify the number of sites treated when the same procedure is performed on multiple sites in the coronary arteries.

**Examples**

- 1. Angioplasty of two distinct sites in the left anterior descending coronary artery with placement of two stents is coded as Dilation of Coronary Arteries, Two Sites, with Intraluminal Device
- 2. Angioplasty of two distinct sites in the left anterior descending coronary artery, one with a stent placed and one without, is coded separately as Dilation of Coronary Arteries, One Site, with Intraluminal Device and Dilation of Coronary Arteries, One Site with No Device
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<tr>
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<td>Medical and Surgical Heart and Great Vessels Dilation: Expanding an orifice or the lumen of a tubular body part</td>
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<th>Device</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 Coronary Artery, Three Sites</td>
<td>4 Percutaneous Endoscopic</td>
<td>T Intraluminal Device, Radioactive</td>
<td>Z No Qualifier</td>
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<td>3 Coronary Artery, Four or More Sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>F Aortic Valve</td>
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<td>G Mitral Valve</td>
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<td>H Pulmonary Valve</td>
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<td>J Tricuspid Valve</td>
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<td>K Ventricle, Right</td>
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<tr>
<td>P Pulmonary Trunk</td>
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<td>Q Pulmonary Artery, Right</td>
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<tr>
<td>S Pulmonary Vein, Right</td>
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<tr>
<td>T Pulmonary Vein, Left</td>
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<tr>
<td>V Superior Vena Cava</td>
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<tr>
<td>W Thoracic Aorta</td>
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Bypass (1)

- Bypass - Altering the route of passage of the contents of a tubular body part
- Rerouting contents of a body part to a downstream area of the normal route, to a similar route, or to an abnormal route and dissimilar body part
- Includes one or more anastomoses, with or without the use of a device
- Normal route – example CABG
- Abnormal route – example colostomy
Coding Guideline B3.6

• B3.6a – Bypass procedures
  – Bypass procedures are coded by identifying the body part bypassed “from” and the body part bypassed “to.” The fourth character body part specifies the body part bypassed from and the qualifier specifies the body part bypassed to

• B3.6b – Bypass procedures
  – Coronary arteries are classified by number of distinct sites treated, rather than number of coronary arteries or anatomic name of a coronary artery (e.g. LAD)
  – Coronary artery bypass procedures are coded differently than other bypass procedures as described in the previous guideline. Rather than identifying the body part bypassed from, the body part identifies the number of coronary artery sites bypassed to, and the qualifier specifies the vessel bypassed from
  – Example: Aortocoronary artery bypass of one site on the left anterior descending coronary artery and one site on the obtuse marginal coronary artery is classified in the body part axis of classification as Two Coronary Artery Sites and the qualifier specifies the Aorta as the body part bypassed from
Coding Guideline B3.6 (continued)

• B3.6c – Bypass procedures
• If multiple coronary artery sites are bypassed, a separate procedure is coded for each coronary artery site that uses a different device and/or qualifier
• Example: Aortocoronary artery bypass and internal mammary coronary artery bypass are coded separately.
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<td>Intraluminal Device</td>
<td>Coronary Vein</td>
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6. Root Operations That Always Involve a Device

- **Insertion**- Putting in a non-biological appliance that monitors, assists, performs, or prevents a physiological function but does not physically take the place of a body part.
- **Replacement**- Putting in or on biological or synthetic material that physically takes the place and/or function of all or a portion of a body part.
- **Supplement**- Putting in or on biological or synthetic material that physically reinforces and/or augments the function of a portion of a body part.
- **Change**- Taking out or off a device from a body part and putting back an identical or similar device in or on the same body part without cutting or puncturing the skin or a mucous membrane.
- **Removal**- Taking out or off a device from a body part.
- **Revision**- Correcting, to the extent possible, a portion of a malfunctioning device or the position of a displaced device.
Insertion (H)

• Insertion- Putting in a non-biological appliance that monitors, assists, performs, or prevents a physiological function but does not physically take the place of a body part
• Sole objective is to put in a device without doing anything else to a body part
• Examples
  – Placement of a porta-cath
  – Open placement of a bone growth stimulator
  – Placement of a dual chamber pacemaker in the chest wall
  – Insertion of pacemaker lead into the right atrium
  – Placement of a Swan-Ganz catheter into the superior vena cava
Replacement (R)

- Replacement - Putting in or on biological or synthetic material that physically takes the place and/or function of all or a portion of a body part
- Body part may have been taken out or replaced, or may be taken out, physically eradicated, or rendered non-functional during the Replacement
- Removal root operation is coded for taking out the device used in a previous replacement procedure
- Examples
  - Total knee replacement on the left side
  - Full-thickness skin graft to the left upper arm
  - Cornea transplant from cadaver donor
  - Mitral valve replacement with synthetic substitute
  - Phacoemulsification of the left eye cataract with IOL insertion
Supplement (U)

• Supplement-Putting in or on biological or synthetic material that physically reinforces and/or augments the function of a portion of a body part
• Biological material is non-living, or is living and from the same individual
• Body part may have been previously replaced and the Supplement procedure is performed to physically reinforce and/or augment the function of the replaced body part
• Body part may have been taken out during a previous procedure but is not taken out as part of the Supplement procedure
• Examples
  – Herniorrhaphy with mesh
  – Mitral valve ring annuloplasty
  – Inserting a new acetabular liner in a previous hip replacement
Change (2)

- Change-Taking out or off a device from a body part and putting back an identical or similar device in or on the same body part without cutting or puncturing the skin or a mucous membrane
- External is the only applicable approach
- Similar device is exchanged without making an incision or puncture
- Examples
  - Exchange of feeding tube
  - Change drainage device
Removal (P)

- Removal-Taking out or off a device from a body part
- If device is taken out and a similar device is put in without cutting or puncturing the skin or mucous membrane = Change
- Otherwise - Removal is the root operation
- Removal is not coded if it is integral to another procedure (e.g. Replacement)
- Examples
  - Removal of left forearm external fixator
  - Laparotomy with removal of pancreatic drain
  - PEG tube removal without incision
  - Cystoscopy with retrieval of left ureteral stent
Revision (W)

- Revision-Correcting, to the extent possible, a portion of a malfunctioning device or the position of a displaced device
- Revision can include correcting a malfunctioning device by taking out and/or putting in part of the device
- Entire device cannot be taken out
- Putting a whole new device in not coded here
- Complete Re-do is coded to the procedure performed
- Examples
  - Adjustment of a pacemaker lead in the left atrium
  - Revision of a VAD in the chest wall
  - Re-cementing of the hip prosthesis of a total hip replacement on the left side
7. Root Operations Involving Examination Only

• Inspection- Visually and/or manually exploring a body part

• Map- Locating the route of passage of electrical impulses and/or locating functional areas in a body part
Inspection (J)

- Inspection- Visually and/or manually exploring a body part
- Visual exploration may be performed with or without optical instrumentation
- Manual exploration may be performed directly or through intervening body layers
- Objective is to examine
- Procedures discontinued without any other root operation = Inspection
- Examples
  - Exploration of left pleural cavity via thoracotomy
  - Laparotomy with palpation of the liver
  - Colonoscopy
  - Diagnostic colposcopy with examination of cervix
B3.11a

• Inspection of a body part(s) performed in order to achieve the objective of a procedure is not coded separately
Map (K)

- Map- Locating the route of passage of electrical impulses and/or locating functional areas in a body part
- Applicable only to cardiac conduction mechanism and central nervous system
- Examples
  - Cortical mapping
  - Cardiac mapping
8. Root Operations That Define Other Repairs

- Control - Stopping, or attempting to stop, postprocedural bleeding
- Repair - Restoring, to the extent possible, a body part to its normal anatomic structure and function
Control (3)

- Control- Stopping, or attempting to stop, postprocedural bleeding
- Site of bleeding anatomical region, not a specific body part
- Includes irrigation or evacuation of hematoma to clear operative site
- If 1 of 7 other root operations necessary to control bleeding, Control is not coded
  - Bypass
  - Detachment
  - Excision
  - Extraction
  - Reposition
  - Replacement
  - Resection
- See guideline
Control vs. More Definitive Root Operations

B3.7

• The root operation Control is defined as, “Stopping, or attempting to stop, postprocedural bleeding.” If an attempt to stop postprocedural bleeding is initially unsuccessful, and to stop the bleeding requires performing any of the definitive root operations Bypass, Detachment, Excision, Extraction, Reposition, Replacement, or Resection, then that root operation is coded instead of Control.
Repair (Q)

• Repair - Restoring, to the extent possible, a body part to its normal anatomic structure and function
• Used only when the method to accomplish repair is not one of the other root operations
• Broad range of procedures
• “NEC” root operation
• Examples
  – Suture of laceration
  – Hernia repair without mesh
  – Open repair of biceps tendon
  – Suture of duodenal laceration
9. Root Operations that Define Other Objectives

- **Fusion** - Joining together portions of an articular body part rendering the articular body part immobile
- **Alteration** - Modifying the anatomic structure of a body part without affecting the function of the body part
- **Creation** - Making a new genital structure that does not take over the function of a body part
Fusion (G)

- Fusion - Joining together portions of an articular body part rendering the articular body part immobile
- Body part joined together by fixation device, bone graft or other means
- Limited range of procedures only for joints
- Vertebral joint fusion
  - Qualifier values
    - Anterior approach, anterior column
    - Posterior approach, posterior column
    - Posterior approach, anterior column
- Examples
  - Intercarpal fusion of left hand using bone graft
  - Percutaneous pin fixation and interphalangeal fusion of the great toe, right
  - Posterior spinal fusion L2-L4 with BAK cage interbody fusion device
B3.10a.

- The body part coded for a spinal vertebral joint(s) rendered immobile by a spinal fusion procedure is classified by the level of the spine (e.g. thoracic). There are distinct body part values for a single vertebral joint and for multiple vertebral joints at each spinal level.
Multiple Fused Vertebrae

B3.10b

• If multiple vertebral joints are fused, a separate procedure is coded for each vertebral joint that uses a different device and/or qualifier.
B3.10c

- Combinations of devices and materials are often used on a vertebral joint to render the joint immobile. When combinations of devices are used on the same vertebral joint, the device value coded for the procedure is as follows:

If an interbody fusion device is used to render the joint immobile (alone or containing other material like bone graft), the procedure is coded with the device value Interbody Fusion Device
Combination of Materials (continued)

If bone graft is the only device used to render the joint immobile, the procedure is coded with the device value Nonautologous Tissue Substitute or Autologous Tissue Substitute

If a mixture of autologous and nonautologous bone graft (with or without biological or synthetic extenders or binders) is used to render the joint immobile, code the procedure with the device value Autologous Tissue Substitute
Which Device is Coded?

This patient has a spinal fusion, involving a BAK cage and bone graft. Some of the graft material is from the patient’s hip bone and some is synthetically produced. What device(s) are coded?

A. BAK cage only
B. Autologous bone graft only
C. Synthetic graft only
D. BAK cage and autologous bone graft
Alteration - Modifying the anatomic structure of a body part without affecting the function of the body part

- Cosmetic surgery
- Objective is to improve appearance
- Diagnostic confirmation of medical or cosmetic purposes
- Examples
  - Face lift
  - Cosmetic blepharoplasty
  - Breast augmentation
  - Rhinoplasty
Creation (4)

- Creation-Making a new genital structure that does not take over the function of a body part
- Used only for gender reassignment surgery
- Body part value represents the sex the patient starts as
- Qualifier value represents the sex the patient ends as
- If autograft of tissue is performed, coded separately
- Examples
  - Creation of vagina in male
  - Creation of penis in female
Familiarize yourself with the root operation definitions
  – 9 groups with similar attributes
  – Compare and contrast within and between the groups

Brush up on anatomy and physiology as it applies to ICD-10-PCS

Become more comfortable with the ICD-10-PCS System

Practice coding
  – code operative reports for a common procedures using ICD-10-PCS

Keep learning, gear up for implementation
RESOURCES

• ICD-10-PCS
  – Guidelines:

• Elsevier /MC Strategies ICD-10 Website
  • http://www.icd-10online.com
Wrap-Up

• Thank you for attending our webinar!
• Questions? T.Jorwic@elsevier.com
• Please complete the survey, your feedback helps us to design training to meet your needs
• The Power Point slides and CE Certificate for this webinar can be downloaded from http://icd-10online.com/rcc-web-certification-2
  — These documents will be available for one month
  — They will be available beginning at 2:15 today
• Feel free to contact us at anytime about coding and revenue cycle issues