



THE ROAD TO ICD-10

AXIS OF CLASSIFICATION

ICD-10-CM is a multi-axial classification of the site, morphology, behavior, and grading of diseases and conditions. An ICD-10 code tells a complete story of the patient's condition and services provided.

As an example, in ICD-10-CM, Respiratory tuberculosis is subdivided based on sites such as the lungs, lymph nodes, larynx, and bronchi. The documentation of site will allow an accurate representation of services utilized.

Another example is hernias. All hernia codes are grouped by site in ICD-10-CM, whereas ICD-9-CM only groups inguinal hernias by site. This means site specificity for other hernias, such as ventral hernias has increased in ICD-10-CM.

ICD-10-CM is a multi-axial system

In ICD-10-CM, anatomy is the primary axis of classification and codes are based on the anatomical systems. The systems that are titled Diseases of the Circulatory System and Diseases of the Genitourinary System are based on the anatomy of the system.

Other axes used are:

- Etiology or cause of disease (certain infectious and parasitic diseases)
 - Site of disease (Crohn's Disease of the larger intestine)
 - Type of disease (cardiac arrhythmia)
- Morphology or structure and form of an organism (leukemia)

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