Not Your Average Encounter: Quirky ICD-10 Codes

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One look at the ICD-10-CM/PCS codebook proves that life is full of surprises. With ICD-10 stepping up the specificity of clinical codes, coders now have access to descriptions that can accurately capture even the most surprising of medical conundrums.

The increased specificity is a boon for epidemiologists, who can use the coded data to better track workplace accidents, public health concerns, and risky human behavior.

Below are some unique and interesting ICD-10 codes that highlight both the specificity of the new code set and its ability to chronicle the truism, "On any given day, anything can happen."

It's All Fun and Games Until...



09CKXZZ

Forceps removal of foreign body in the left nostril



W17.82XA

Fall from (out of) grocery cart, initial encounter



V94.4XXA

Injury to barefoot water-skier, initial encounter

Please, Do Not Pet the Animals



Watch Your Step



W53.21XA

Bitten by squirrel, initial encounter

W56.22XD

Struck by orca, subsequent encounter

W22.02XA

Walked into lamppost, initial encounter



W58.13XS
Crushed by crocodile, sequela



W61.43XA
Pecked by turkey, initial encounter



Y93.C2 Activity, handheld interactive electronic device (e.g., cellular phone)

For additional ICD-10 resources and information, visit www.ahima.org/icd10.

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