

Practice with PCS

Save to myBoK

It's October 1, 2013, the first day the ICD-10-CM/PCS codes are required in practice. It is also a landmark day for fictional 57-year-old John Smith.

At first Smith thought he'd had one mustard-covered brat too many for lunch that October day. But the chest pain he initially brushed off as heart burn worsened, leading Smith to feel it may be the first indication of serious heart problems.

Smith raced to the local emergency room, and doctors rushed into action.

Below is a review of the procedures performed on Smith after he was admitted and diagnosed with coronary artery disease. At right are the ICD-10-PCS codes the hospital's coding staff would assign to the case.

The example is adapted from a case study in *ICD-10-PCS: An Applied Approach* by Lynn Kuehn, MS, RHIA, CCS-P, FAHIMA, and Therese Jorwic, MPH, RHIA, CCS, CCS-P, FAHIMA (AHIMA Press, 2012).

The Procedures

Doctors perform:

- Coronary angiograms
- Intra-aortic balloon pump placement
- PTCA with placement of one drug-eluting stent

All procedures are documented in the patient's chart, which is eventually sent to the coding department.

The Codes

The procedures listed on Smith's chart require codes from four sections of ICD-10-PCS (root operations in capital letters):

027034Z: DILATION of one coronary artery site with placement of a drug-eluting intraluminal device (Medical-Surgical)

4A023N7: Sampling and pressure MEASUREMENT in the left heart, performed percutaneously (Measurement and Monitoring)

B2111ZZ: FLUOROSCOPY of multiple coronary arteries with low osmolar contrast media (Imaging)

5A02210: Continuous ASSISTANCE of cardiac output by use of a balloon pump (Extracorporeal Assistance and Performance)

A Footnote

If a patient had one coronary artery site treated using a stent, as stated above, but also had another site treated without the use of a stent, an additional code would be required: 02703ZZ.

For more information on coding in ICD-10-CM/PCS, visit www.ahima.org/icd10.

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