Helpful Websites

Resources for Coders

<https://www.aapc.com/resources>

Search Engines:

<http://www.google.com>

<http://www.yahoo.com>

<http://www.askjeeves.com>

<http://www.bing.com>

For Medical Encyclopedia & Dictionary:

<https://www.nih.gov/health-information>

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>

<http://medlineplus.gov/>

<http://www.medscape.com/medscapetoday/resource>

<http://www.instantanatomy.net/sitemap.html>

<http://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/>

<https://medabbrev.com/index.cfm>?

For Code Books: CPT

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/physician-resources/solutions-managing-your-practice/coding-billing-insurance/cpt.page>

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/find-coding-resources> (CPT®2024 code set, CPT® coding resources, HCPCS resources, ICD-10 resources, Relative value units (RVU) resources

CPT® News)

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/ama-store>

CPT Errata:

<https://www.ama-assn.org/search?search=CPT+errata>

CPT Assistant (Monthly newsletter published by the AMA):

<https://www.ama-assn.org/search?search=CPT+Assistant>

For Code Books: ICD-10-CM

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd-10-cm/files.html>

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/index.html> (ICD-10)

<http://www.icd10data.com/> (ICD-10-CM)

American Hospital Association (AHA) Central Office

<https://www.aha.org/websites/2017-12-17-aha-central-office>

Publisher of AHA Coding Clinic for ICD-10-CM

Publisher of ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS Coding Handbook

For Code Books: HCPCS

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedHCPCSGenInfo/>

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coding-billing/healthcare-common-procedure-system/quarterly-update>

<http://www.hcpcsdata.com/>

For Evaluation & Management:

CPT® Evaluation and Management:

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/cpt-evaluation-and-management>

Evaluation & Management Services Guide:

<https://www.cms.gov/mln905364-complying-with-medicare-signature-requirements>

Complying with Medical Record Documentation Requirements:

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/CERTMedRecDoc-FactSheet-ICN909160.pdf>

Complying with Medicare Signature Requirements:

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/Signature_Requirements_Fact_Sheet_ICN905364.pdf>

For current ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting:

<https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Publications/ICD10CM/2025/icd-10-cm-FY25-guidelines-october%20-2024.pdf>

Four Cooperating Parties for ICD-10-CM:

American Hospital Association (AHA)

<http://www.aha.org/>

American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)

<http://www.ahima.org/>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

[www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/index.htm>

MPFSDB – Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/PhysicianFeeSched/index.html?redirect=/PhysicianFeeSched/>

Click on PFS Relative Value Files

Choose the year and file name (RVU current year, current quarter – A, B, C or D)

Click on file name then click on file under Downloads

Once downloaded, click on file to open Zip file

Scroll to bottom of file list, open PDF (guide to fee schedule & relative value file)

Double-click on Excel file just above PDF (National Fee Schedule Relative Value File)

Double-click on Excel file that starts with GPCI (Geographic Practice Cost Indices)

Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC): What is a MAC?

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Contracting/Medicare-Administrative-Contractors/What-is-a-MAC.html>

A/B MAC Jurisdictions: Who are the MACs?

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Contracting/Medicare-Administrative-Contractors/Who-are-the-MACs.html> (current maps and lists, A/B MACs and HH+H areas, DME MACs)

For National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) or Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs):

Medicare Coverage Determination Process

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coverage/determination-process>

Medicare Coverage Database

<https://www.cms.gov/search/cms?keys=Medicare+Coverage+Database>

Choose your state

Type keyword(s) to refine your search and hit Enter or the Submit Search icon

How to Use the Medicare Coverage Database

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/MLN/Educational-Tools/MLN901347-How-to-MCD/mcd/mcd/index.html>

CCI: Correct Coding Initiative (aka NCCI – National Correct Coding Initiative)

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/>

Scroll down and print the How to Use the Medicare National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Tools

Scroll down and print the Proper Use of Modifiers 59, XE, XP, XS, and XU (PDF) article

Click on Correspondence Language Manual for chapter-specific bundling examples, then close and scroll back up to top

Click on Medicare NCCI Policy Manual

View Manual by Chapters

Click Introduction and read

Click Chapter 1 and read

Click on the chapter by code range

Click on Medicare NCCI Procedure to Procedure (PTP) Edits

Open Practitioner PTP Edits for code range & quarter you need

Save files to your computer to use to edit your multiple procedure claims and to file appeals

Column 1 represents the comprehensive procedure; Column 2 represents the components

Rename each file by quarter and by year for later reference for appeals or postpayment audit (If you need to reference older versions, you will need to purchase them)

There are also Add-on Code Edits found here

All NCCI edits are Date of Service (DOS) specific

Risk Adjustment:

Medicare Fee for Service (FFS) (for Medicare Part B)

Quality Payment Program (QPP): Delivery System Reform, Medicare Payment Reform, & MACRA:

<https://qpp.cms.gov/>

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/quality/value-based-programs/quality-payment-program>

<https://qpp.cms.gov/about/qpp-overview> (MIPS, APMs, Resources)

Medicare Advantage Risk Adjustment (for Medicare Part C):

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Health-Plans/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Risk-Adjustors.html>

Medicare Risk Adjustment Eligible CPT/HCPCS Codes

Diagnoses from Telehealth Services for Risk Adjustment

ICD-10-CM to HCC Mappings by year (Initial or Midyear/Final)

On the left side:

Announcements and Documents (include Advance Notices and Announcements explaining model changes and Risk Adjustment Factors [RAF] by Hierarchical Condition Category [HCC])

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Health-Plans/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Announcements-and-Documents.html>

Medicaid:

<https://www.medicaid.gov/>

Federal Policy Guidance, Resources for States, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Basic Health Program, State Overviews, About Us

Commercial Risk Adjustment (under the Affordable Care Act [ACA]):

The Center for Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight (CCIIO):

<https://www.cms.gov/cciio/index.html>

Regulations and Guidance:

<https://www.cms.gov/marketplace/resources/regulations-guidance>

The ICD-10 crosswalk is posted on the CCIIO webpage under the section labeled “Premium Stabilization Programs” under “Regulations & Guidance” in Technical Details (XLSX) file for your review (search XLSX, look for most current) (<https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Programs-and-Initiatives/Premium-Stabilization-Programs/index.html>).

Fact Sheets and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

<https://www.cms.gov/marketplace/resources/fact-sheets-faqs#Premium%20Stabilization%20Programs>

Health Insurance Marketplace:

<https://www.cms.gov/marketplace/in-person-assisters/information-partners>

Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Programs (promoting interoperability):

<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/index.html?redirect=/ehrincentiveprogramsincentiveprogram>

Pay for Performance (P4P or PFP) (Payment and Delivery Models):

<https://www.ama-assn.org/search?search=Pay+for+Performance>

Payment for Quality (P4Q):

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)

<http://www.ncqa.org/>

Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) and Performance Measurement

<http://www.ncqa.org/HEDISQualityMeasurement.aspx>

Five-Star Quality Rating System

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/CertificationandComplianc/FSQRS.html>

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/health-drug-plans/part-c-d-performance-data?q=Star%20ratings>

Based on provider and plan performance, quality of care data and patient surveys

Physician Compare Initiative (Medicare Care Compare)

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/physician-compare-initiative/>

* Physician Compare Search Tool (Medicare Care Compare) <https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare/>
* Find information about providers and facilities based on your individual needs
* Get helpful resources to choose your health care providers
* Make more informed decisions about where you get your health care

Value Based Care:

<https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation/key-concepts/value-based-care>

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/quality/value-based-programs>

<https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation-center/value-based-care-spotlight/basics-value-based-care>

<https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation-center/value-based-care-spotlight>

<https://www.ama-assn.org/search?search=value+based+care>

Practice Administration Tools:

[www.cms.hhs.gov/center/practice.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/practice.asp) (Practice Administration Center)

[www.cms.hhs.gov/center/provider.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/provider.asp) (All Fee-For-Service Providers)

[www.cms.hhs.gov/center/physician.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/physician.asp) (Physician Center)

[www.cms.hhs.gov/center/dme.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/dme.asp) (Durable Medical Equipment [DME] Center)

[www.cms.hhs.gov/center/hha.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/hha.asp) (Home Health Agency [HHA] Center)

[www.cms.hhs.gov/center/hospital.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/hospital.asp) (Hospital Center)

<http://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Anesthesiologists-Center.html> (Anesthesiologists Center)

Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) Information:

<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/CLIA/index.html?redirect=/clia/>

American Medical Association (AMA):

<https://www.ama-assn.org/search?search=most%20visited> (Most Visited)

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/criteria-cpt-category-i-and-category-iii-codes> (Criteria for CPT® Category I and Category III codes)

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/criteria-cpt-category-ii-codes> (Criteria for CPT® Category II codes)

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/category-ii-codes> (CPT® Category II code descriptors and clinical topics listing)

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/cpt/cpt-evaluation-and-management> (CPT® Evaluation and Management)

Administrative Simplification Initiatives

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/hipaa-administrative-simplification>

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/administrative-simplification-advocacy>

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Toolbox (free resources):

<https://www.aafp.org/pubs/fpm/collections/toolbox.html>

List Servs:

Receive CMS.gov email updates for various topics of your choice

<http://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Aboutwebsite/EmailUpdates.html>

ICD-10-CM Latest news and resources

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/index.html?rediret=ICD10>

Regulatory & Compliance Resources:

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA):

HIPAA Compliance Plan:

<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/hipaa-compliance>

HIPAA Basics for Providers:

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/HIPAAPrivacyandSecurity.pdf>

Office for Civil Rights (enforces HIPAA Privacy, Security and Breach Notification Rules)

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/index.html>

OIG Compliance Program for Individual and Small Group Physician Practices:

<https://oig.hhs.gov/authorities/docs/physician.pdf>

Compliance Guidance on OIG website:

<https://oig.hhs.gov/compliance/compliance-guidance/index.asp>

Compliance Resource Material on OIG website:

<https://oig.hhs.gov/compliance/compliance-guidance/compliance-resource-material.asp>

OIG Annual Work Plan:

<https://oig.hhs.gov/reports-and-publications/workplan/index.asp>

Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC) Audits (for Medicare Part B):

<http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Recovery-Audit-Program/index.html>

Scroll down for Recent Updates

Risk Adjustment Data Validation (for Medicare Part C):

<https://www.cms.gov/data-research/monitoring-programs/medicare-risk-adjustment-data-validation-program>

Regulatory & Compliance Topics:

<https://www.ama-assn.org/search?search=Regulatory+and+Compliance>

Health System Reform Resources:

<https://www.ama-assn.org/search?search=Health+System+Reform>

Public Health Emergency Declarations

<https://aspr.hhs.gov/legal/PHE/pages/default.aspx>

COVID-19 Resources

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#datatracker-home>

[Telehealth Technologies during Coronavirus](https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/special-topics/emergency-preparedness/notification-enforcement-discretion-telehealth/index.html)

Telehealth:

<https://www.ama-assn.org/search?search=telehealth>

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coverage/telehealth/list-services>

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coverage/telehealth>

<https://oig.hhs.gov/reports-and-publications/featured-topics/telehealth/>

Billing for Telehealth

<https://telehealth.hhs.gov/providers/billing-and-reimbursement?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIvdL_6fm28gIV5GxvBB3jnAPNEAAYASAAEgJIzvD_BwE>

Contact your medical specialty society

Specialty Definitions

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/197214>

National Specialty Societies (courtesy of the Texas Medical Association)

<https://www.texmed.org/Template.aspx?id=3373>

American Board of Medical Specialties

<http://www.abms.org/member-boards/contact-an-abms-member-board/>

Contact your insurance commissioner

<http://www.naic.org/state_web_map.htm>

Contact your elected officials

<https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials>