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AHIMA Certified Coding Specialist - Physician-based



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Question: 1

A 14-year-old patient is seen for an annual sports physical. During the exam, the physician discovers the patient has asymptomatic scoliosis. What is the correct sequencing?

- A. Z00.00, M41.9
- B. Z02.5, M41.9
- C. M41.9, Z02.5
- D. M41.9, Z00.121

Answer: B

Question: 2

A patient is seen for "Allergic rhinitis due to pollen". The patient also has "Asthma". What is the correct code assignment?

- A. J45.909, J30.1
- B. J30.2
- C. J30.9
- D. J30.1, J45.909

Answer: D

Question: 3

A patient with Type 2 diabetes is seen for a follow-up of "diabetic mild nonproliferative retinopathy with macular edema". What is the correct ICD-10-CM code assignment?

- A. E10.3211
- B. E11.9, H35.81
- C. E11.3219
- D. E11.311

Answer: C

Question: 4

A practice identifies a Credit Balance on a patient's account due to an overpayment by Medicare. What is the legally required action?

- A. Refund the overpayment to Medicare within 60 days of identification.
- B. Apply the credit to the patient's next visit.
- C. Keep the money as a "bonus" for efficient coding.
- D. Transfer the balance to the physician's personal account.

Answer: A

Question: 5

An established patient is seen for a 25-minute office visit. The physician spends 20 of those minutes in counseling and coordinating care regarding a new diagnosis of Stage 4 CK. The physician chooses to level by time. What is the correct E/M code?

- A. 99214
- B. 99212
- C. 99215
- D. 99213

Answer: D

Question: 6

The OIG Work Plan is updated monthly. If a coder sees an entry regarding "Audit of Orthopedic Surgeons' use of Modifier -25," what should the clinic's compliance officer do?

- A. Stop using Modifier -25 immediately.
- B. Report the orthopedic surgeons to the OIG proactively.
- C. Ignore the notice as it only applies to hospital-based physicians.
- D. Conduct an internal "shadow audit" on a sample of claims using Modifier -25 in the orthopedic department.

Answer: D

Question: 7

Which metric is most commonly used to research the "return on investment" (ROI) of a CAC implementation in a multi-specialty clinic?

- A. The number of physicians in the group.
- B. Coding "Days in Accounts Receivable" (A/R) and Coder Accuracy Rate.
- C. The cost of CPT codebooks.
- D. Total number of patients seen per day.

Answer: B

Question: 8

Under the False Claims Act, what is the legal term for a "whistleblower" who reports a provider for knowingly submitting fraudulent claims to the government?

- A. Relator
- B. Adjudicator
- C. Beneficiary
- D. Defendant

Answer: A

Question: 9

A surgeon sees a patient in the ED and decides the patient needs immediate major surgery (90-day global). The surgery is performed the same evening. What modifier is appended to the ED E/M code?

- A. -58
- B. -57
- C. -51
- D. -25

Answer: B

Question: 10

A medical scribe assists a physician by documenting the encounter in the EHR. To be compliant, what must the physician do at the end of the note?

- A. Nothing; the scribe's signature is sufficient.
- B. Co-sign the note at the end of the week.
- C. Review, sign, and date the note, including a statement that they were present and personally performed the services.
- D. Sign the note but do not edit the scribe's work.

Answer: C

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