



Clinical Documentation Education

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What is clinical documentation, why is it important, and how do we educate clinicians on documentation excellence?



Clinical Documentation



Clinical Documentation Education

What is it?

Importance of Proper Documentation

INPATIENT

OUTPATIENT

RISK ADJUSTMENT

Two types of opportunities

1. Missed opportunities
2. Improvement opportunities

Assessment:

CKD Stage 3: Most recent eGFR 53. Follow up with labs prior to next visit

Diabetes with nephropathy: Continue trulicity at current dose. Recheck A1C prior to next visit.

ICD-10 Codes:

Chronic kidney disease, stage 3 **unspecified** N18.30

Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic **nephropathy** E11.21

Assessment:

CKD Stage 3: Most recent eGFR 53. Follow up with labs prior to next visit

Diabetes with nephropathy: Continue trulicity at current dose. Recheck A1C prior to next visit.

More specific ICD-10 Codes:

Chronic kidney disease, **stage 3a** N18.31

Type 2 diabetes mellitus with **diabetic chronic kidney disease**
E11.22

Assessment:

68 year old female here for annual wellness visit.

Increased swelling in both legs for 3 months due to PVD.

Prescribed Clopidogrel and advised patient to follow up in 8 weeks.

ICD-10 Codes:

Other specified soft tissue disorders M79.89

[ICD-10: Swelling > leg > lower > M79.89]

Assessment:

68 year old female here for annual wellness visit.

Increased swelling in both legs for 3 months due to PVD.

Prescribed Clopidogrel and advised patient to follow up in 8 weeks.

Missed ICD-10 Codes:

Peripheral vascular disease, unspecified I73.9

~~Other specified soft tissue disorders M79.89~~

A photograph of Bill Nye, the science communicator, wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a patterned bow tie. He is pointing his right hand upwards and to the right, looking in the same direction. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The bottom of the image is partially obscured by a dark blue curved shape.

Everyone you will ever meet
knows something you don't.

—— *Bill Nye* ——

How is education
given?

Table 2: Comparison of Typical Inpatient Versus Outpatient CDI Process Components

CDI Component	Inpatient	Outpatient
CDI Specialist	Nurse with medical coding training	Medical coder with CDI training
Review	Concurrent	Retrospective
Communication	Query to provider	Provider education
Claim Submission	After CDI review	Prior to CDI review
Provider Action	Immediate improvement to clinical documentation	Clinical documentation is improved at next visit

<https://www.aapc.com/clinical-documentation-improvement/>

Coding Support

- Querying clinician for documentation improvement



Clinical Documentation Improvement (CDI)

1. Analyze why your facility/practice needs a CDI program.
2. Decide how CDI reviews are selected
3. Establish clinical standards
4. Review the reviews
5. Collaborate

<https://www.aapc.com/clinical-documentation-improvement/>

CDI Role

1. Often requires both a clinical and coding background
 - More so in inpatient setting
2. Great opportunity for individuals shifting from clinical to coding role
3. AKA
 - Coding Educator
 - Clinical Documentation Specialist
 - Provider Educator
 - Clinical Documentation Educator

Tips for Educators

- Be confident
- Be prepared
 - Regulations
 - Coding guidance
 - Peer reviews
 - Provide examples
- Be honest
- Be reliable
- Be precise and concise
- Be respectful

“

**We all need people
who will give us
feedback.
That's how we improve**

Bill Gates, Microsoft



Tips for Clinicians

Tips for Clinicians

- Document. Document. Document.
 - Paint an accurate, thorough clinical picture
- Trust your education team
 - Communicate with coding team and/or educators/CDI
- Remember the big picture

Questions?





**Thank you for your time &
attendance**