



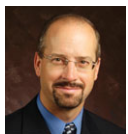
ICD-9 Updates for 2011

■ DAVID STERN, MD, CPC

Updates to the ICD-9 code set went into effect October 1, 2010. There will be one more regularly scheduled ICD-9 update on October 1, 2011. No update is scheduled for 2012, but on October 1, 2013, the vastly larger ICD-10 code set is scheduled to take effect.

The following are changes that are of particular interest to us in the urgent care field:

- **New code to specify post-traumatic seizures:** When a patient experiences seizure(s) as a result of a head injury, physicians now can use a specific code for this condition—ICD-9 code **780.33**, Post-traumatic seizures.
- **New code for jaw pain:** Physicians now have code **784.92** to specify the symptom of jaw pain. (In the past, we had to code jaw pain with the nonspecific code 526.9, Unspecified disease of the jaws, *which is still a valid code.*)
- **New codes related to influenza:** To specify pneumonia and other manifestations of avian or novel H1N1 influenza, physicians should use the now-expanded codes **488.01–488.09** and **488.11–488.19**, as shown in **Table 1**.
- **Codes related to retained foreign bodies:** Physicians can now indicate the presence of retained foreign bodies with new codes of the **V90 series**, which classify the retained foreign body by its material composition (**Table 2**).
When appropriate, two other specific codes should be used in addition to the above codes to indicate the anatomic location of the foreign body:
 - **360.61**, Foreign body in anterior chamber
 - **729.6**, Residual foreign body in soft tissue
- **New codes related to intrauterine contraceptive devices (IUDs):** Use the following new ICD-9 codes for visits related to insertion and removal of IUDs:



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Table 1. New Codes Related to Influenza

ICD-9 Code	Description of Influenza Condition
488.01	Influenza due to identified <i>avian influenza</i> virus with <i>pneumonia</i>
488.02	Influenza due to identified <i>avian influenza</i> virus with <i>other respiratory manifestations</i>
488.09	Influenza due to identified <i>avian influenza</i> virus with <i>other manifestations</i>
488.11	Influenza due to identified <i>novel H1N1 influenza</i> virus with <i>pneumonia</i>
488.12	Influenza due to identified <i>novel H1N1 influenza</i> virus with <i>other respiratory manifestations</i>
488.19	Influenza due to identified <i>novel H1N1 influenza</i> virus with <i>other manifestations</i>

Table 2. New Codes Related to Retained Foreign Bodies

ICD-9 Code	Composition of Retained Foreign Body
V90.01	Retained depleted uranium fragments
V90.09	Other retained radioactive fragments
V90.10	Retained metal fragments, unspecified
V90.11	Retained magnetic metal fragments
V90.12	Retained nonmagnetic metal fragments
V90.2	Retained plastic fragments
V90.31	Retained animal quills or spines
V90.32	Retained tooth
V90.33	Retained wood fragments
V90.39	Other retained organic fragments
V90.81	Retained glass fragments
V90.83	Retained stone or crystalline fragments
V90.89	Other specified retained foreign body
V90.9	Retained foreign body, unspecified material

- **V25.11**, Encounter for *insertion* of intrauterine contraceptive device
- **V25.12**, Encounter for *removal* of intrauterine contraceptive device
- **V25.13**, Encounter for *removal and reinsertion* of intrauterine contraceptive device

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Table 3. New Codes Related to Cognitive Abnormalities

ICD-9 Code	Description of Cognitive Abnormalities
799.51	Attention or concentration deficit
799.52	Cognitive communication deficit
799.53	Visuospatial deficit
799.54	Psychomotor deficit
799.55	Frontal lobe and executive function deficit
799.59	Other signs and symptoms involving cognition

Table 4. New Codes Related to Disorders of Defecation

ICD-9 Code	Defecation Disorder
787.60	Full incontinence of feces
787.61	Incomplete defecation
787.62	Fecal smearing
787.63	Fecal urgency
560.32	Fecal impaction

Table 5. New Codes Related to Obesity

ICD-9 Code	Degree of Morbid Obesity
V85.41	Body Mass Index 40.0-44.9, adult
V85.42	Body Mass Index 45.0-49.9, adult
V85.43	Body Mass Index 50.0-59.9, adult
V85.44	Body Mass Index 60.0-69.9, adult
V85.45	Body Mass Index 70 and over, adult

- The code **V25.1** for insertion of an intrauterine contraceptive device is now *invalid*.
- Continue reporting code **V25.42** for routine checking of intrauterine contraceptive device.

■ **New codes for cognitive abnormalities:** The new codes detailed in **Table 3** allow physicians to better specify types of cognitive deficits.

■ **New codes for lumbar spinal stenosis:** Physicians can now use different codes for spinal stenosis to differentiate between patients with and those without neurogenic claudication:

- **724.02** Spinal stenosis, lumbar region, without neurogenic claudication
- **724.03** Spinal stenosis, lumbar region, with neurogenic claudication

■ **New code for disorders of defecation:** Codes in the **787.6 series** have been added to specify disorders of defecation (**Table 4**). Code **560.39** (Other impaction of intestine) is still valid, but should no longer be used to code for a diagnosis of fecal impaction.

■ **Codes related to Obesity.** New **V85.4 series (Table 5)** codes allow physicians to classify levels of morbid obesity by body mass index.

A related new code (**278.03**) indicates the diagnosis of *obesity hypoventilation syndrome*.

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OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

There are marked downsides to engaging in such exceptions, however.

Think of a recovering alcoholic; he might take a drink at some point, thinking, "What's one drink?" But that drink is likely to lead to a "just one more can't hurt" mentality and, in short order, the alcoholic falls off the wagon.

In sales, one exception leads to two, then three, and soon to a return to the bad old habit of sequential cold calls.

I met recently with an experienced sales professional whose sales plan overwhelmingly centered around cold

calls. When I raised my concern, she countered by telling me that she had worked her comparatively small market for 11 years with a previous employer, and knew most of the key contacts in her community. If there were ever an exception to the in-person, no-cold-call rule, this was it. Yet, all in all, I believe she could have leveraged her name and personal relationships just as effectively from her office.

Respect your prospect's time, above all. Cold calls fall short in this respect. ■