2007 Annual ICD-9-CM Update

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) have issued new diagnosis codes for the 2007 edition of the International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM). New diagnosis codes have been created to describe unilateral and asymmetrical sensorineural hearing loss, and accurately report screening examination of the ears and hearing. Existing hearing loss code descriptors were also revised to describe bilateral testing. The new diagnosis codes went into effect on October 1, 2006. There will not be a grace period for the new codes. Services rendered on or after Oct.1, 2006 will require the 2007 updated ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes.

New Diagnosis Code

389.15    Sensorineural hearing loss, unilateral
389.16    Sensorineural hearing loss, asymmetrical
V72.11    Encounter for hearing examination following failed hearing screening
V72.19    Other examination of ears and hearing

Invalid Diagnosis Codes

V72.1    Examination of ears and hearing

Revised Diagnosis Code Titles

389.11    Sensory hearing loss, bilateral
389.12    Neural hearing loss, bilateral
389.14    Central hearing loss, bilateral
389.18    Sensorineural hearing loss of combined types, bilateral