ICD-10 Diagnosis Documentation Tips – Infectious Disease

Increased Specificity in ICD-10:

- **Manifestation**
  - Example: Typhoid fever (ICD-9 – one code)
  - ICD-10 specificity: typhoid meningitis, typhoid fever with heart involvement, typhoid pneumonia, typhoid arthritis, typhoid osteomyelitis

- **Microbiology / Complications**
  - Example: Infectious mononucleosis (ICD-9 – one code)
  - ICD-10
    - Type: gammaherpesviral MN, cytomegaloviral MN, ...
    - Complications: polynervitis, meningitis, other, ...

- **Anatomy / LATERALITY**
  - Reiter’s disease (ICD-9 one code)
  - ICD-10
    - Anatomy: shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, hip, ...
    - LATERALITY: right, left, unspecified

- **Advances in medicine** (global epidemiology)
  - “Other mosquito-borne fever” (ICD-9 – one code)
  - ICD-10: Chikungunya virus, O’Nyong-nyong fever, West Nile virus infection, Rift valley fever, etc.

**Gastroenteritis:**

- Etiology drives correct coding
  - Infectious etiology: viral, bacterial, fungal, parasitic (code based on documentation of specific organism)
  - Non-infectious etiology: radiation, toxic, allergic, etc.
**Tuberculosis:**

- **ICD-9**
  - Coded based on bacteriologic or histologic examination
    - I.e., tubercle bacilli in sputum microscopy, bacilli not found, exam not done, etc. (removed from ICD-10)

- **ICD-10**
  - Enhanced specificity regarding location
    - Includes specificity for eye, ear, adrenal, GU, etc.
  - Then by manifestation
    - Example: Other tuberculosis of the nervous system
    - Subtypes: Tuberculoma of brain and spinal cord, TB meningoencephalitis, TB neuritis, other

**HIV Disease**

- Coders are instructed to code “confirmed cases” of HIV. Does not require serology or culture; a physician’s statement that a patient is HIV positive is sufficient
- If a patient is admitted for an HIV-related illness, the principal diagnosis is HIV
- Separate codes for
  - Asymptomatic HIV infection status
  - Inconclusive serology

**ICD-10 [INPATIENT] Procedural Coding Tips – Infectious Disease**

**Recommendations**

- **Excisional Debridement**
  - Use the term “excisional,” document site, depth, approach (open), debridement technique (scalpel, scissors, etc.)

- **Aspiration (Drainage)**
  - Document whether the procedure is diagnostic or therapeutic