Glossary

**Alphabetic Index to Diseases and Injuries**
This is an alphabetical list of ICD-10-CM terms and their corresponding code or category that helps you decide which section to refer to in the Tabular List. It doesn’t always supply the full code.

**Bilateral**
A condition that affects both the left and right sides of the body or an organ or gland

**Character X**
Used as a placeholder in ICD-10-CM in certain codes to allow for future expansion and fill in empty characters when a code that is less than 6 characters in length requires a 7th character

**Clearinghouses**
Public or private entities, including:
- Billing services
- Repricing companies
- Community health management information or community health information systems
- Value-added networks and switches

**Conventions**
These are the general rules for the classification independent of the guidelines. ICD-10-CM incorporates these conventions within the Alphabetic Index and Tabular List as instructional notes.

**Diagnosis Codes**
Alphanumeric (consisting of letters and numbers) codes that represent medical terminology for diseases, disorders, or other medical conditions affecting the patient

**Excludes Notes**
Notes indicating that codes excluded from each other are independent of each other

**External Cause of Injuries Index**
External cause-of-injury codes (E-codes) are the ICD-10-CM codes used to classify injury incidents by mechanism (such as motor vehicle, fall, struck by or against, firearm, or poisoning) and intent (such as unintentional, homicide or assault, suicide or self-harm, or undetermined)

**ICD-10-CM**
The diagnosis classification system developed by the CDC for use in all U.S. health care treatment settings

**ICD-10-PCS**
The procedure classification system developed by CMS for use only in the U.S. for inpatient hospital settings
Inclusion and Exclusion Notes
Notes included under certain ICD-10-CM codes to indicate conditions for which you may or may not use the code

Intraoperative
Occurring, carried out, or encountered in the course of surgery

Laterality
Specifies whether a condition occurs on the left or right side of the body or organ or gland or specifies that it's bilateral

Payer
Commercial organizations, Medicaid, Medicare, Pharmacy Benefit Management, Indian Health Services, Veterans Administration, military, other government providers, and voluntarily compliant entities such as Coordination of Benefits Contractors

Postoperative
Occurring after a surgical operation

Postprocedural
Occurring after a procedure

Sequela
This is the residual effect (condition produced) after the acute phase of an illness or injury has ended. There's no time limit on when you can use a sequela code.

Subterms
Appear indented under the main terms listed in the ICD-10-CM Alphabetic Index

Table of Drugs and Chemicals
This table has a classification of drugs and other chemical substances to identify poisoning states and external causes of adverse effects. Use these codes when there's a statement of poisoning, overdose, wrong substance given or taken, or intoxication.

Table of Neoplasms
This is a table with code numbers for neoplasms by anatomical site. For each site, there are 6 categories according to whether the neoplasm in question is malignant, benign, in situ, of uncertain behavior, or of unspecified behavior.

Tabular List of Diseases and Injuries
A structured list of diagnosis codes divided into chapters based on body system or condition
**Underdosing**
This is taking less of a medication than a health care provider prescribed or a manufacturer's instruction recommends. Discontinuing the use of a prescribed medication on the patient's own initiative (not directed by the patient's provider) is also classified as an underdosing.

**Vendor**
Organizations made up of billing services; clearinghouses; electronic health record, electronic medical record, and practice management systems; network services; and value-added networks.