

APC Institute:

Ambulatory Surgery Documentation Tips

OBJECTIVE: Clinical documentation of ambulatory surgery visits will have a direct impact upon the coding, billing, and reimbursement of hospitals under the Medicare ambulatory payment classification (APC) system. Most ambulatory surgery procedures will group to the high weighted/paying surgical service APC groups. This program will provide easy-to-reference guidelines for physician documentation of some of the most commonly performed and/or complex ambulatory surgery procedures.

AUDIENCE: Medical Staff, Hospital-Based Clinic Directors/Managers/Staff, Reimbursement Specialists, Compliance Auditors, Coding Managers, Reimbursement Specialists, Directors of: Health Information Management, Nursing, and Utilization Management; ALL hospital staff responsible for outpatient coding including registration, billing and ancillary department staff; Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) and other Allied Health Professionals paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.

DURATION: Minimum 4 hours

CURRICULUM:

I. General Surgery Documentation

- A. Wound Debridement
- B. Excision of Lesions
- C. Wound Repair
- D. Hernia Repair
- E. Injection Procedures

II. Plastic Surgery Documentation

- A. Skin Grafts
- B. Pedicle Flaps
- C. Pressure Ulcers

III. Emergency/Orthopaedic Medicine Documentation

- A. Application of Casts/Strappings
- B. Arthroscopic Knee Synovectomy

- C. Arthroscopic Knee Debridement

IV. Otorhinolaryngology Documentation

- A. Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery
- B. Turbinate Surgery
- C. Laryngoscopy
- D. Middle Ear Surgery

V. Gastroenterology Documentation

- A. Esophageal Dilation
- B. Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
- C. Hemorrhoidectomy

VI. Urology Documentation

- A. Urodynamics
- B. Hypospadias Repair
- C. Hydrocelectomy

VII. Pain Management Documentation

- A. Spinal Blocks
- B. Spinal Catheter Implantation
- C. Intrathecal or Epidural Implantable Reservoir or Pump

VIII. Ophthalmology/Oculoplastic Surgeon Documentation

- A. Vitrectomy
- B. Strabismus Surgery
- C. Blepharoplasty