

Why ICD-10?

Payers use diagnosis codes to:

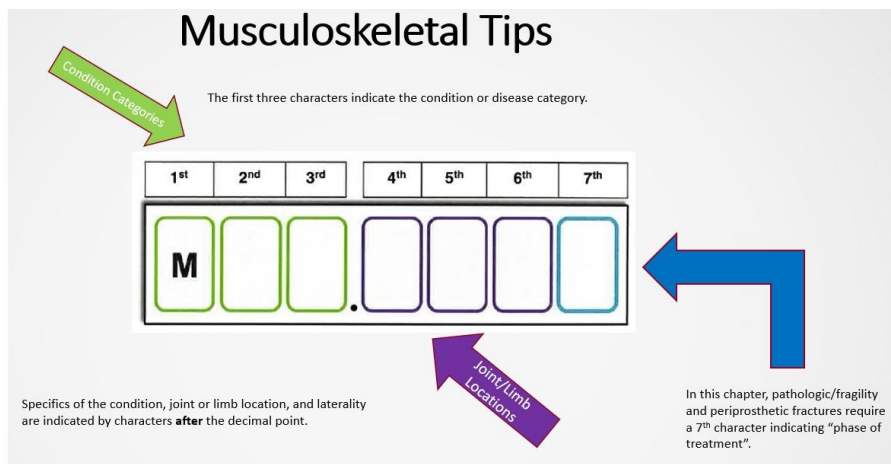
- Deny payment based on lack of medical necessity
- Adjudicate claims possibly resulting in paybacks and penalties
- Build payment policies and coverage determinations

Chapters You Should Know

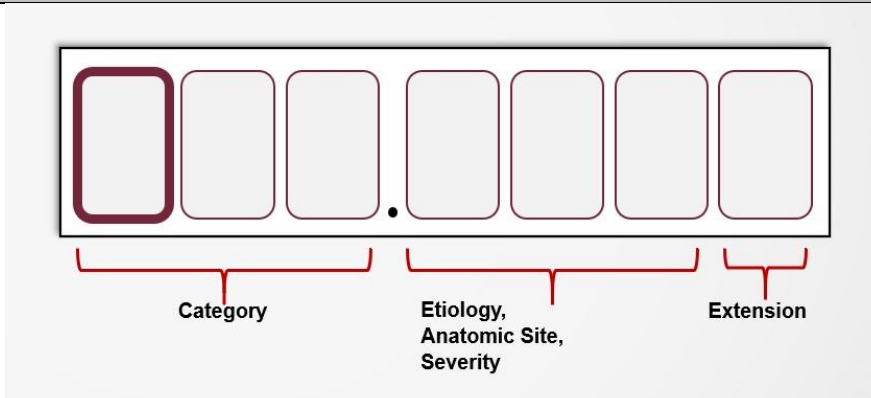
M	Diseases of Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue – almost all are chronic conditions
S	Injury, Poisoning and Certain Other Consequences of External Causes – almost all are acute , i.e. fractures, tears
T	Where most of the complications appear
V	External causes of morbidity. Have not yet routinely been required
Z	Factors influencing health status and contact with health services

Composition of an ICD-10 Code

- Range from 3 to 7 characters
- The first character is always alpha
- The second character is always numeric
- Letter comes first, followed by two digits, a period, and three more digits
- “X” can be a place holder in spot for a number
- Some codes require a final letter



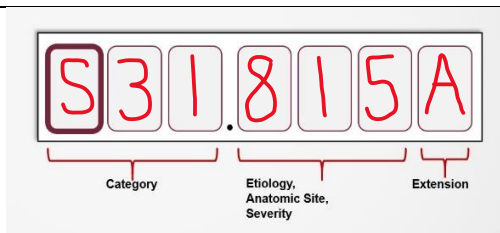
Building an ICD-10 Code



Details Needed:

- Right or left?
- Open or closed?
- Which visit?

Example:
Open bite of right buttock



S is for the injury
A is for the initial encounter

Tip: S31.815D would be the code for subsequent encounter and S31.815S would be the code for sequelae such as infection.

Tips

- Avoid unspecified codes
- Simply add last digit to convert an unspecified code to “right” or “left”

For Example: Primary osteoarthritis of hip

- M16.0 – Bilateral
- M16.11 – Right
- M16.12 – Left
- M16.13 – Unspecified (which should never be used)

Musculoskeletal Tips: 5th & 6th Characters

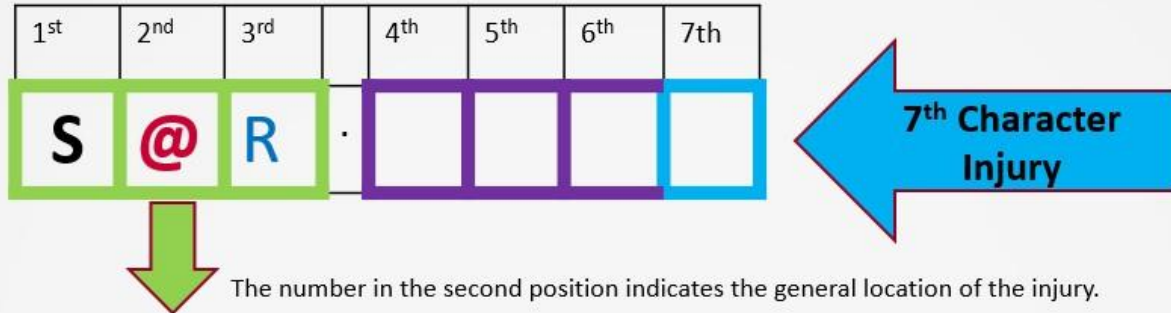
Musculoskeletal Chapter 13						
5 th Character = @ anatomic location				6 th Character		
#	Limb	#	Joint	R	L	U
0	Unspecified	0	Unspecified	1	2	9
1	Shoulder	1	Shoulder	1	2	9
2	Upper Arm	2	Elbow	1	2	9
3	Forearm	3	Wrist	1	2	9
4	Hand	4	Hand/Finger	1	2	9
5	Thigh	5	Hip	1	2	9
6	Lower Leg	6	Knee	1	2	9
7	Ankle/Foot	6	Ankle & Foot/Toe	1	2	9
8	Other	8	Vertebrae/Other			
9	Multiple	9	Polyarthritis/ Multiple Sites			

1 st	2 nd	3 rd		4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th
M			.		@		

Musculoskeletal Tips: 7th character

Musculoskeletal Chapter 13 Vertebral Fatigue Fracture	
7 th character (M48.4 and M48.5)	
A	Initial encounter for fracture
D	Subsequent encounter for fracture W routine healing
G	Subsequent encounter for fracture W delayed healing
S	sequela
Musculoskeletal Chapter 13 Pathologic/Atypical Fracture	
7 th character (M80 and M84)	
A	Initial encounter for fracture
D	Subsequent encounter for fracture W routine healing
G	Subsequent encounter for fracture W delayed healing
K	Subsequent encounter for fracture W nonunion
P	Subsequent encounter for fracture W malunion
S	sequela

Section S – Injury (S00-S99)
2nd and 3rd characters

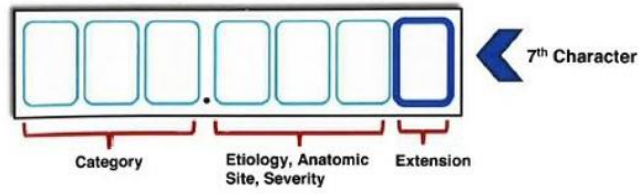


Range	Location
S00-S09	Injuries to the head
S10-S19	Injuries to the neck
S20-S29	Injuries to the thorax
S30-S39	Injuries to the abdomen, lower back, lumbar spine, pelvis, and external genitals
S40-S49	Injuries to the shoulder and upper arm
S50-S59	Injuries to the elbow and forearm
S60-S69	Injuries to the wrist and hand
S70-S79	Injuries to the hip and thigh
S80-S89	Injuries to the knee and lower leg
S90-S99	Injuries to the ankle and foot

Note: Injury (s) and Other Consequences of External Causes (T) is the largest chapter in the ICD-10CM book. The architecture for injury codes is very consistent for injuries beginning with the letter "S". Every code beginning with an "S" or "T" requires a 7th character to describe the phase of treatment.

All traumatic injuries begin with the letter "S".

Section S: 7th Character – Non-fracture



Acute injuries that are NOT fractures have 3 options for the 7th character.

The terms "initial" and "subsequent" here have NOTHING to do with the CPT description of New and Established Patient Visits

7 th Character for Injuries (Not Fractures)		
7 th Character	ICD-10 Short Descriptor	You Think
A	Initial encounter	Active treatment
D	Subsequent encounter	Routine healing or follow-up
S	Sequela	Cause of current illness or injury

Tips:

- “A”, initial encounter, is used while the patient is receiving active treatment for the condition. Examples of active treatment are: surgical treatment, emergency department encounter, and evaluation and **continued active** treatment by the **same or a different physician**
- The 7th character selection is based on the phase of treatment: active vs. healing vs. sequela
- The 7th character must ALWAYS be in the 7th position
- The 7th character is based on whether the patient is undergoing active treatment and *not* whether the provider is seeing the patient for the first time

Section T, Poisoning and Certain Other Consequences of External Causes (T07-T98)


"T" codes most often used by orthopaedic surgeons

T07	Unspecified multiple injuries
T14	Injury of unspecified body region
T15-T19	Effects of foreign body entering through natural orifice
T20-T32	Burns and corrosions
T33-T34	Frostbite
T36-T50	Poisoning by, adverse effect of and <u>underdosing</u> of drugs, medicaments and biological substances
T51-T65	Toxic effects of substances chiefly nonmedicinal source
T66-T78	Other and unspecified effects of external <u>causes</u>
T79	Certain early complications of trauma (shock, compartment syndrome, air emboli)
T80-T88	Complications of surgical and medical care, NEC (wear, osteolysis, loosening, dislocation)

These codes do require a 7th character indicating the "phase of treatment"

Note: Some complication codes beginning with "T" are found in the Injury Chapter
Architecture is not as consistent as injury codes beginning with "S"

Fracture Documentation



L aterality & Location
E ncounter
O pen/closed

C lassification/Category or Cause

F racture pattern
A lignment
R esult

Location and Laterality:	Right/Left and name of bone plus EXACT location on the bone, example: proximal, distal, upper end, lower end, shaft, head, coronoid process, base of neck, midcervical, first lumbar, transverse posterior, dome, medial wall, tibial tuberosity, tibial spine, bicondylar...
Encounter: <i>look-up term initial and subsequent</i>	Addresses the assignment of the 7th character for injuries and describes the phase of treatment. This is not the same as "new and established patient visit" in CPT. In ICD-10, the encounter with the short descriptor initial vs. subsequent addresses the phase of treatment and type of healing. "Initial" is used in the active phase of injury treatment: ER, surgery, or office for example. "Subsequent" is the term that begins the descriptors for treatment following the acute phase and is used to describe the healing phase. It is also the term beginning the descriptors describing delayed healing, nonunion, and malunion of fractures, which are additionally described under "results" below.
Open or closed:	Fracture (if there is no documentation default: closed)
Classification:	Traumatic Gustilo, Salter-Harris, Neer, Zones of pelvis
Category:	Physeal, osteoporosis age related pathologic, stress, atypical
Cause:	Medication, age, neoplasm, other disease.
Fracture Pattern:	Transverse, oblique, spiral comminuted, segmental, longitudinal, greenstick
Alignment:	Displaced vs. nondisplaced (no documentation default: displaced)
Result:	Routine healing, delayed healing, malunion, nonunion (if there is no documentation default: routine healing)

Resources

- **AAOS Code-X**

ICD-10 Codes

Code Type

ICD-10-CM ICD-10-PCS
SEARCH ICD-10-CM INDEXES

Codes Displayed

50 ▾

CODE ↑	DESCRIPTION
 S72.0	Fracture of head and neck of femur
 S72.00	Fracture of unspecified part of neck of femur
 S72.001	Fracture of unspecified part of neck of right femur
 S72.001A ✓	Fracture of unspecified part of neck of right femur, initial encounter for

- AAOS Global Service Data for Orthopaedic Surgery
- Karen Zupko & Associates/AAOS Coding Courses
- American Medical Association
 - ICD-10-CM, The Official Codebook
 - CPT Codebook
 - CPT Assistant