































Episode of Care



- A = Initial Encounter is defined as the period when the patient is receiving 'active' treatment for the injury, poisoning, or other consequences of an external cause.
- Example: An "A" may be assigned on more than one record.
 - If a patient is seen in the ER for a head injury evaluated by ER physician, then a CT scan is read by the radiologist, and a consultation by a neurologist, the 7th character "A" is reported for all three encounters (ER, Xray, New Doctor visit).
 - If the patient is admitted to the acute care hospital, the 7th character "A" is used for the entire period that the patient receives active treatment for the injury.

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- D = Subsequent Encounter is defined as the period <u>after the active</u> <u>phase of treatment</u> and when the patient is receiving routine care for the injury during the period of healing or recovery.
- <u>Subsequent encounter include</u>: cast change, removal of external or internal fixation device, medication adjustment, and follow-up of fracture treatments.
- <u>Example</u>: A patient with an ankle sprain may return to the office to have joint stability re-evaluated and to ensure that the injury is healing properly. In this case, 7th character "D" is reported.

Episode of Care



- S = Sequela Encounter is defined late effect where the residual condition developed long after the current injury healed.
- <u>Example</u>: Scar due to old lacerations, deformity due to a nonunion fracture three months ago, paralysis due to previous accident, and brain damage from drug reaction that was discontinued six months ago.

Combination Codes



- ICD-9-CM multiple coding rules are complex and confusing.
 There are very few combination codes.
- To eliminate the confusion, ICD-10-CM created many combination codes, such as:

i25.110 Atherosclerotic heart disease of native coronary artery, with unstable angina pectoris

K50.011 Crohn's disease of small intestine <u>with</u> rectal bleeding
K57.21 Diverticulitis of large intestine <u>with</u> perforation and abscess <u>with</u> bleeding

E11.341 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with severe nonproliferative

diabetic retinopathy with macular edema.





































