Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue
M00 – M50

Presented by Lawrence A. Santi, DPM, FASPS

Webinar 4a: Thursday, February 20, 2014
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GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHAPTER 13 (M00 – M50)
Specific Coding Guidelines for Chapter 13 (M00 – M99)

Site and laterality

• Most of the codes within Chapter 13 have site and laterality designations. The site represents the bone, joint or the muscle involved.

• Where more than one bone, joint or muscle is usually involved, such as osteoarthritis, there is a “multiple sites” code available.

• For categories where no multiple site code is provided and more than one bone, joint or muscle is involved, multiple codes should be used to indicate the different sites involved.
Specific Coding Guidelines for Chapter 13 (M00 – M99)

Bone versus joint

• For certain conditions, the bone may be affected at the upper or lower end, (e.g., avascular necrosis of bone, M87, Osteoporosis, M80, M81). Though the portion of the bone affected may be at the joint, the site designation will be the bone, not the joint.
Specific Coding Guidelines for Chapter 13 (M00 – M99)

Acute traumatic versus chronic or recurrent musculoskeletal conditions

- Many musculoskeletal conditions are a result of previous injury or trauma to a site, or are recurrent conditions. Bone, joint or muscle conditions that are the result of a healed injury are usually found in chapter 13.

- Recurrent bone, joint or muscle conditions are also usually found in chapter 13.

- Any current, acute injury should be coded to the appropriate injury code from chapter 19.
Specific Coding Guidelines for Chapter 13 (M00 – M99)

- Chronic or recurrent conditions should generally be coded with a code from chapter 13.

- If it is difficult to determine from the documentation in the record which code is best to describe a condition, query the provider.
Specific Coding Guidelines for Chapter 13 (M00 – M99)

Coding of Pathologic Fractures

- 7th character A is for use as long as the patient is receiving active treatment for the fracture.
- 7th character, D is to be used for encounters after the patient has completed active treatment.
- The other 7th characters, listed under each subcategory in the Tabular List, are to be used for subsequent encounters for treatment of problems associated with the healing, such as malunions, nonunions, and sequelae.
Specific Coding Guidelines for Chapter 13 (M00 – M99)

Coding of Pathologic Fractures

• Care for complications of surgical treatment for fracture repairs during the healing or recovery phase should be coded with the appropriate complication codes.
Specific Coding Guidelines for Chapter 13 (M00 – M99)

Osteoporosis

• Osteoporosis is a systemic condition, meaning that all bones of the musculoskeletal system are affected.

• Site is not a component of the codes under category M81, Osteoporosis without current pathological fracture.

• The site codes under category M80, Osteoporosis with current pathological fracture, identify the site of the fracture, not the osteoporosis.
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

• Use an external cause code following the code for the musculoskeletal condition, if applicable, to identify the cause of the musculoskeletal condition.
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

Excludes 2: Indicates that condition identified in the note is not part of the condition represented by the code where the note appears, so both codes may be reported together if the patient has both conditions.

• arthropathic psoriasis (L40.5-)
• certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (P04-P96)
• certain infectious and parasitic diseases (A00-B99)
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

Excludes 2:

compartment syndrome (traumatic) (T79.A-)

complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium (O00-O9A)

congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities (Q00-Q99)

endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00-E88)
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

Excludes 2:

injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (S00-T88)

neoplasms (C00-D49)

symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (R00-R94)
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

This chapter contains the following blocks:

M00-M02  Infectious arthropathies
M05-M14  Inflammatory polyarthropathies
M15-M19  Osteoarthritis
M20-M25  Other joint disorders
M26-M27  Dentofacial anomalies [including malocclusion] and other disorders of jaw
M30-M36  Systemic connective tissue disorders
M40-M43  Deforming dorsopathies
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

M45-M49  Spondylopathies
M50-M54  Other Dorsopathies
M60-M63  Disorders of Muscles
M65-M67  Disorders of synovium and tendon
M70-M79  Other Soft tissue disorders
M80-M85  Disorders of bone density and structure
M86-M90  Other Osteopathies
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

M91-M94   Chondropathies

M95   Other disorders of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue

M96   Intraoperative and postprocedural complications and disorders of musculoskeletal system, not elsewhere classified

M99   Biomechanical lesions, not elsewhere classified
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

M19 – Other and unspecified osteoarthritis

Excludes1: polyarthritis (M15.-)

These codes cannot be reported together with other codes in this chapter since the two conditions cannot occur together.
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

M19 – Other and unspecified osteoarthritis

Excludes2: arthrosis of spine (M47.-)

hallux rigidus (M20.2)

osteoarthritis of spine (M47.-)

Indicates that condition identified in the note is not part of the condition represented by the code where the note appears, so both codes may be reported together if the patient has both conditions
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

M20 - Acquired deformities of fingers and toes

**Excludes1**: acquired absence of fingers and toes (Z89.-)

congenital absence of fingers and toes (Q71.3-, Q72.3-)

congenital deformities and malformations of fingers and toes (Q66.-Q68-Q70, Q74.-)

These codes cannot be reported together with other codes in this chapter since the two conditions cannot occur together.
Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue (M00-M50)

M79.6 Pain in limb, hand, foot, fingers and toes

**Excludes 2:** pain in joint (M25.5-)

Indicates that condition identified in the note is not part of the condition represented by the code where the note appears, so both codes may be reported together if the patient has both conditions.
Direct Comparison of ICD-9 vs ICD-10
ICD-9 (five digits)

X  X  X  X  X

Category  etiology
anatomic site, manifestation

ICD-10 (seven digits)

X  X  X  X  X  X  X  X

Category  etiology  extension
anatomic site, severity
ICD-10 Example: Pain

• START WITH INDEX
• There is a period after the 3rd character and often a dash
• Example Pain
  M79. –

• NEXT TO TABULAR - Define the site, etiology, manifestation or state of the disease or condition
• Example Pain
  M79. –
4th Character

• Define the site, etiology, manifestation or state of the disease or condition

• Numeric

• Example Pain

M79. -

M79.6- pain in limb, hand, foot, fingers, toes
5th Character

- 5th character identifies a level of specificity
- Letter or Number (0-9)
- Example
  M79.- Pain
  M79.6- pain in limb, hand, foot, fingers, toes
  M79.60- Pain in limb
6\textsuperscript{th} character

- **6\textsuperscript{th} character** is even more specific
- Numeric (0-9)
  - Describes specific location or cause
  - For laterality
    - 1 is right
    - 2 is left
    - 3 is unspecified
- Example Pain
  M79.-
  M79.6- pain in limb, hand, foot, fingers, toes
  M79.60- Pain in limb unspecified
  M79.671  Pain in right foot
Dummy Character “X” -The Placeholder

• To allow for further expansion some codes have a “dummy” 4th, 5th place character so that the 6th character structure will not be disrupted when changes are added.

• “7th characters” means the applicable 7th character must always be used and placeholder “x” used as a 5th character and/or 6th character codes to allow for future expansion.
7th Character

• Some codes have a so-called character extension

• Typically letters, that describe conditions/timing of the visit

• Used to give more information about the events related to the reason for the visit or service

• Note: Not all chapters or codes require a 7th character
7th Character

Non-fracture care

A- Initial encounter
D- Subsequent encounter
S- Sequela

Fracture Care

A- Initial encounter (for closed fracture)
B- Initial encounter (for open fracture)
D- Subsequent encounter for normal healing fracture
G- Subsequent encounter for delayed healing fracture
K- Subsequent encounter for fracture with non-union
P- Subsequent encounter for fracture with mal-union
S- Sequela of fracture
Painful Hammered Toes on the Left Foot

In this presentation, we will learn to code using the new ICD – 10 classification a patient who presents with:

1. Painful hammered toes on the left foot
2. Pes planus on the right and left foot
3. Pain in left limb
Painful Hammered Toes on the Left Foot

Consultation:

Referring physician:  Dr. XXXXXXX

Chief Complaint:

Mr. Smith, a 50 year old male, presents for an initial visit with painful 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 3\textsuperscript{rd}, and 4\textsuperscript{th} hammered toes on the left foot.
Painful Hammered Toes on the Left Foot

History of present illness:

He states that the hammered toes on the left foot have been hurting him for about one year. He has discomfort when he ambulates with shoes or sneakers. Taking his shoes off helps to make it feel better. He does not remember any trauma and this is not work related.

Location of injury: N/A
Painful Hammered Toes on the Left Foot

Left foot - Foot type – Pes planus

Normal ROM- subtalar, midtarsal, and ankle joints

Forefoot reveals severe rigid contractures of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th toes with no ROM at the PIP joints

Hyperkeratotic lesions are noted on the dorsal aspect of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th toes over the PIP joints with tenderness on palpation

No signs of infection

Muscle power/tone – WNL
Painful Hammered Toes on the Left Foot

Right foot - Foot type – Pes planus

Normal ROM- subtalar, midtarsal, and ankle joints

Slight flexion contractions of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th toes with good, painless ROM

No hyperkeratotic lesions noted

No signs of infection

Muscle power/tone – WNL
Painful Hammered Toes on the Left Foot

Radiological:

Review of patient’s radiographs of the left foot reveal contracted 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 3\textsuperscript{rd} and 4\textsuperscript{th} toes with no joint space noted at the PIP joints. All other joints appear normal. There is no evidence of any fractures or dislocations.

On the lateral view, the foot appears flat with a decrease in the calcaneal inclination angle.
Painful Hammered Toes on the Left Foot

Assessment:

1. Painful hammered toes, left foot
2. Pes planus, both right and left feet
3. Pain in left toes

Plan:

1. Rx: Celebrex 200 mg. daily
2. Discussed with patient better shoe gear with custom-made orthotics
3. Surgical options were discussed
4. Patient to return for follow-up in one week
Coding This Encounter Using ICD - 9

Hammered toes – 735.4
Pes planus – 734.0
Pain in joints of toes – 719.47
Coding This Encounter Using ICD - 10

Code for hammered toes, left foot:

Go to chapter 13 - Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (M00-M99).

M20- Acquired deformities of fingers and toes

M20.4 Other hammered toe(s) (acquired)

M20.42 Other hammered toe(s) (acquired), left foot

ICD – 10 code for our hammered toes (acquired), left foot – M20.42
Coding This Encounter Using ICD - 10

Code for pes planus, right and left feet:

Go to chapter 13 - Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (M00-M99).

M21.4  Flat foot (pes planus) (acquired)

M21.41  Flat foot (pes planus) (acquired), right foot

M21.42  Flat foot (pes planus) (acquired), left foot

ICD – 10 code for our pes planus of right foot – M21.41

ICD – 10 code for our pes planus of left foot – M21.42
Coding This Encounter Using ICD - 10

Code for pain in left toes:

M25 Other joint disorder
M25.50 Pain in unspecified joint
M25.57 Pain in ankle and joints of foot
M25.572 Pain in left ankle and joints of foot
## Comparing ICD-9 and ICD-10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD - 9</th>
<th>ICD - 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>735.4 Hammered toes</td>
<td>M20.42 Hammered toes (acquired), left foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>734.0 Pes planus</td>
<td>M21.41 Pes planus of right foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M21.42 Pes planus of left foot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>719.47 Pain in joint</td>
<td>M25.572 Pain in left ankle and joints of foot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Coding This Encounter Using ICD - 10

The codes for this initial encounter for a patient with painful hammered toes of the left foot would be:

ICD – 10:  M20.42  Hammered toes (acquired), left foot
            M21.41  Pes planus of right foot
            M21.42  Pes planus of left foot
            M25.572 Pain in left ankle and joints of foot
Next Webinar

Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue
M00 – M50 (Part 2)

Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 8:00 PM ET

Presented by Lawrence A. Santi, DPM, FASPS

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Questions?