

Key Steps for Accurate Medical Coding

1. Abstract the documentation.

Read completely through the documentation of the encounter. Identify why, what, how, and where. Read it again!



2. Query, if necessary.

Make a list of questions regarding any unclear or missing information. Never assume or guess.



3. Code the diagnosis or diagnoses.

Describe why the health care provider treated this patient during this encounter.



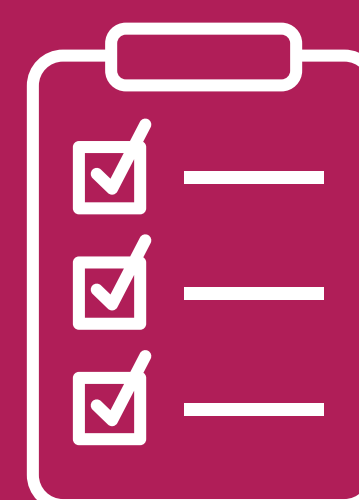
4. Code the procedure(s).

Describe what the provider did for the patient during this encounter.



5. Confirm medical necessity.

Link every procedure code to at least one diagnosis code.



6. Double-check your codes.

Coding precisely will result in a greater number of your claims getting paid quickly.

