

ICD-10-CM Update for Emergency Services

Documenting and Coding for Abdominal Pain

On October 1, 2015, the ICD-9-CM code set that is used to report medical diagnoses in the United States will be replaced with the ICD-10-CM code set. The new code set provides more than 68,000 codes, compared to 13,000 in ICD-9, and introduces alphanumeric category classifications for the first time. As such, ICD-10 is much more proficient at describing current conditions and healthcare practices, and possesses the flexibility to expand as needed to accommodate the changing environment.

This newsletter is part of a series by APS Medical Billing that illustrates the changes that will occur in transitioning to the new code set for sample conditions, providing the additional documentation that should be included in the emergency physician's report to direct proper diagnosis code assignment, come October 1, 2015.

In this edition we will take a look at one of the most frequently-used diagnoses in the Emergency Department, abdominal pain:

- As in ICD-9, the ICD-10 nomenclature specifies the location of **abdominal pain** but designates acute abdomen as a separate diagnosis
- In ICD-9, codes for **abdominal tenderness** include **rebound tenderness** while ICD-10 distinguishes between them with individual code sets
- Code sets for **abdominal rigidity** under both ICD versions are site-specific, while ICD-10 specifies that the code set does not apply to abdominal rigidity with severe abdominal pain and cross-referencing back to the acute abdomen ICD-10 code

Documentation Tips:

- ✓ Differentiate between pain, tenderness, rebound tenderness, and/or rigidity
- ✓ Identify location
- ✓ Specify severity of pain/acute abdomen

ICD-9-CM Code(s)	ICD-10-CM Code(s)
789.00 – 789.09 Abdominal pain (includes acute abdomen and abdominal cramps)	R10.0, R10.10 – R10.13, R10.30 – R10.33, R10.84 Abdominal pain
 789.00 Abdominal pain, unspecified site 789.01 Abdominal pain, right upper quadrant 789.02 Abdominal pain, left upper quadrant 789.03 Abdominal pain, right lower quadrant 789.04 Abdominal pain, left lower quadrant 789.05 Abdominal pain, periumbilic 	 R10.0 Acute abdomen Includes: Severe abdominal pain (generalized)(with abdominal rigidity) Excludes: Abdominal rigidity NOS, Generalized abdominal pain NOS, Localized abdominal pain



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789.07	Abdominal pain, epigastric Abdominal pain, generalized Abdominal pain, other or multiple sites	 R10.10 Upper abdominal pain, unspecified R10.11 Right upper quadrant abdominal pain R10.12 Left upper quadrant abdominal pain R10.13 Epigastric abdominal pain (includes Dyspepsia) R10.30 Lower abdominal pain, unspecified R10.31 Right lower quadrant abdominal pain R10.32 Left lower quadrant abdominal pain
700 (0		 R10.33 Periumbilic abdominal pain R10.84 Generalized abdominal pain Excludes: Generalized abdominal pain associated with acute abdomen (see R10.0)
789.60 – 789.69 Abdominal tenderness (includes rebound tenderness)		R10.811 – R10.819 Abdominal tenderness (includes abdominal tenderness, NOS)
789.61 / 789.62 / 789.63 / 789.64 / 789.65 / 789.66 /	Abdominal tenderness, unspecified site Abdominal tenderness, right upper quadrant Abdominal tenderness, left upper quadrant Abdominal tenderness, right lower quadrant Abdominal tenderness, left lower quadrant Abdominal tenderness, periumbilic Abdominal tenderness, epigastric Abdominal tenderness, generalized	 R10.811 Right upper quadrant abdominal tenderness R10.812 Left upper quadrant abdominal tenderness R10.813 Right lower quadrant abdominal tenderness R10.814 Left lower quadrant abdominal tenderness R10.815 Periumbilic abdominal tenderness R10.816 Epigastric abdominal tenderness
789.69	Abdominal tenderness, other or multiple sites	R10.817 Generalized abdominal tenderness R10.819 Abdominal tenderness, unspecified site R10.821 – 10.829 Rebound abdominal
		tenderness R10.821 Right upper quadrant rebound abdominal tenderness R10.822 Left upper quadrant rebound abdominal tenderness R10.823 Right lower quadrant rebound abdominal tenderness R10.824 Left lower quadrant rebound abdominal tenderness R10.825 Periumbilic rebound abdominal tenderness R10.826 Epigastric rebound abdominal tenderness



789.40 – 789.09 Abdominal Rigidity	 R10.827 Generalized rebound abdominal tenderness R10.829 Rebound abdominal tenderness, unspecified site R19.30 - R19.37 Abdominal Rigidity (excludes abdominal rigidity with severe abdominal pain [R10.0])
 789.40 Abdominal rigidity, unspecified site 789.41 Abdominal rigidity, right upper quadrant 789.42 Abdominal rigidity, left upper quadrant 789.43 Abdominal rigidity, right lower quadrant 789.44 Abdominal rigidity, left lower quadrant 789.45 Abdominal rigidity, periumbilic 789.46 Abdominal rigidity, epigastric 789.47 Abdominal rigidity, generalized 789.49 Abdominal rigidity, other or multiple sites 	 R19.30 Abdominal rigidity, unspecified site R19.31 Right upper quadrant abdominal rigidity R19.32 Left upper quadrant abdominal rigidity R19.33 Right lower quadrant abdominal rigidity R19.34 Left lower quadrant abdominal rigidity R19.35 Periumbilic abdominal rigidity R19.36 Epigastric abdominal rigidity R19.37 Generalized abdominal rigidity