

# Coders' Dictionary

Defining medical terms from a coding and reimbursement perspective

## Introduction

Congratulations on your decision to purchase the eighth edition of *Coders' Dictionary*, the only medical dictionary designed exclusively for medical coders, billers, and reimbursement professionals. It was created when our own clinical editors discovered traditional medical dictionaries often did not provide answers to their coding questions. Unlike more traditional medical dictionaries, *Coders' Dictionary* lays the groundwork for understanding medical terminology from a coding perspective, enhancing the ability to interpret a medical record and more accurately code a claim.

The intention of the *Coders' Dictionary* is not to provide definitions for all conceivable medical terms, but instead to focus on definitions that may confound a coder or biller. Subsequently, while a certain basic level of medical terminology knowledge is presumed of a coder, the *Coders' Dictionary* is continuing to include common medical abbreviations and anatomical definitions particularly with the implementation of ICD-10. The additional specificity inherent with ICD-10 places a greater emphasis on anatomy and physiology and including these terms can help ease a coder's transition by allowing for quick and easy reference of key anatomic terms and common abbreviations frequently seen in medical documentation.

To create Coders' Dictionary, Optum360 coding experts generated a list of ambiguous or vexing words found in the medical record or in billing and reimbursement communications, in addition to standard anatomy and physiology terminology and common medical abbreviations. The words may be acronyms, eponyms, or abbreviations, or they may represent generic or brand name medical devices or pharmaceuticals. Unusual procedural, anatomical, or epidemiological terminology from the medical record is also included. The goal of Coders' Dictionary is to provide specific definitions and sometimes instructions that accommodate the narrow focus of the medical coder or biller. In some cases, the definition may direct the reader to a single, specific code. In other cases, only a general clinical definition is necessary to provide a road map to appropriate code selection.

#### Contents

Coders' Dictionary is comprised of different segments, including anatomical illustrations, the main body of alphabetically ordered terms with coding information for ICD-9-CM, CPT®, and HCPCS Level II coding, and Appendixes of tables for metric conversions.

### **Organization**

#### Terms and Definitions

The entries in the main body of the book are organized in numeric and alphabetic order, with numeric entries preceding the alphabetic entries. The term being defined will appear in bold, at the beginning of the entry.

Compound nouns will appear in their natural language order:

#### radiotherapy afterloading

rather than:

#### afterloading, radiotherapy

Following the bolded term will be a definition appropriate to coding and reimbursement and sometimes coding instructions. If the term being defined is an acronym, the first words of the definition will provide the acronym's actual meaning:

TCD Transcranial Doppler. Noninvasive ultrasound technology used to evaluate blood flow in the major intracranial arteries. TCD done with contrast is performed by intravenous microbubble injection, in which the bubbles serve to enhance ultrasound signals, thereby producing better visualization. TCD procedures are reported with a CPT code from range 93886–93893.

#### Prefixes and Suffixes

Prefixes and suffixes used in medical terminology are incorporated alphabetically into the main body of the book. These are not complete words; only the beginning (prefix) or end (suffix) of a word appears with its meaning. Each partial word has a meaning:

**cyst-** Relating to the urinary bladder or a cyst. (prefix)

-ectomy Excision, removal. (suffix)

These partial words can be put together to define a complete word:

**cystectomy 1)** Excision or removal of the urinary bladder. **2)** Excision or removal of a cyst on any anatomical site.

Prefixes and suffixes are typically not seen in medical documentation as stand-alone words.

upon criteria such as age, sex, institutional status, Medicaid, disability, and end-stage renal failure.

**AAPPO** American Association of Preferred Provider Organizations.

**AAROM** Active assistive range of motion. AAROM is used in physical therapy. The physical therapist moves the patient's limbs in range of motion exercises.

#### Associated CPT Code(s): 97110

**AAT** Alpha-1 antitrypsin. Plasma protein inhibitor of clastase activity and other enzymes, such as trypsin and cathepsin G, that digests various proteins. AAT is produced primarily in the liver and a deficiency of this protein has been connected with emphysema.

**AAV** 1) Adeno associated virus, also known as adeno-associated vector. It is of the genus Dependovirus, part of the Parvoviridae family. Report with ICD-9-CM code 079.89. Report with ICD-10-CM code B34.8. 2) AIDS-associated virus. Report with the appropriate ICD-9-CM code for HIV: asymptomatic infection, V08; exposure, V01.79; nonspecific serologic evidence, 795.71; or symptomatic infection, 042. Report with the appropriate ICD-10-CM code for HIV: asymptomatic infection, Z21; exposure, Z20.6; nonspecific serologic evidence, R75; or symptomatic infection, B20.

**Associated CPT Code(s):** 86689, 86701 **Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s):** 042, 079.89, 795.71, V01.79, V08

#### Associated ICD-9-CM Vol 3 Code(s): 10

**AAW** Anterior aortic wall.

Ab 1) Antibiotic. 2) Antibody.

AB 1) Abortion. 2) Blood type.

ab- From, away from, absent.

**ABA** Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis. Noninvasive hypersensitivity reaction caused by an allergy to aspergillus fumigatus (mold), a fungus normally found growing in stored grain, decaying vegetation, bird feces, or dead leaves. Symptoms include exacerbation of asthma symptoms, wheezing, and hemoptysis.

#### Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 518.6

**abarelix** Injectable gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) antagonist approved for the treatment of advanced symptomatic prostate cancer under certain conditions. Abarelix may be sold under the brand name Plenaxis.

**abarognosis** Loss of the ability to sense or consciously perceive weight, such as the weight of hand-held objects. **Synonym(s):** baragnosis.

#### Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 781.99

**abasia** Inability to walk due to impaired muscular coordination.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 300.11, 307.9, 781.3

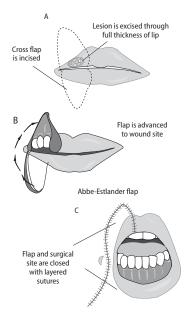
**abatacept** Chemotherapeutic agent used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

Associated CPT Code(s): 96413, 96415, 96417 Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 714.0 Associated ICD-9-CM Vol 3 Code(s): 99.29 Associated HCPCS Code(s): C9399, J0129, J3590

**abattoir fever** Disease caused by infection with Coxiella burnetii, a rickettsial bacteria spread by inhaling contaminated dust or aerosols, contact with infected livestock, or articles such as wool, hair, and hides. It most often affects workers in stockyards, textile plants, or meat packing plants. Symptoms are usually mild and flu-like, but may manifest with high fever, muscle pain, and severe headache and may require antibiotic treatment. **Synonym(s):** Balkan grippe, Q fever, query fever.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 083.0

#### **Abbe-Estlander Procedure**



Abbe-Estlander procedure Reconstructive lip procedure in which a full-thickness portion of the lip is removed. A skin flap from the opposing lip is incised, cross-advanced to the surgical site, and sutured with a layered closure. This procedure is utilized to fill defects of the lip due to cleft deformities, cancer, or trauma.

#### Associated CPT Code(s): 40527

**Abbokinase** Brand name of urokinase, a thrombolytic enzyme that dissolves large pulmonary emboli, especially indicated in conditions of unstable vascular dynamics.

Coders' Dictionary orthotopic

**Orinase** Brand name oral medication exclusive to lowering blood glucose in Type II diabetics; generic name tolbutamide.

**Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s):** 250.00, 250.02, 250.10, 250.12, 250.20, 250.22, 250.30, 250.32, 250.40, 250.42, 250.50, 250.52, 250.60, 250.62, 250.70, 250.72, 250.80, 250.82, 250.90, 250.92, 648.00, 648.01, 648.02, 648.03, 648.04

oris Mouth.

**Ormond's syndrome** Retroperitoneal structures involving and often obstructing ureters sometimes following certain types of chemical treatment. There is no identified cause.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 593.4 Associated ICD-10-CM Code(s): N11.1, N13.8

**Oroya fever** Acute form of bartonellosis, an infectious bacterial disease with sudden onset that is transmitted by sandflies, and usually has a short course manifested by hemolytic anemia and fever. **Synonym(s):** Carrion's disease.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 088.0 Associated ICD-10-CM Code(s): A44.0-A44.9

**orphan drugs** Drugs that treat diseases that affect fewer than 200,000 people in the United States, as designated by the FDA. Orphan drugs follow a varied process from other drugs regulated by the FDA.

orphenadrine citrate Injectable muscle relaxant used to relieve the pain of muscle strains and spasms and also to alleviate the symptoms of Parkinson's disease. May be sold under brand name Neocyten.

Associated HCPCS Code(s): J2360

-orrhaphy Suturing.

**ORT** Oral rehydration therapy.

ortho Orthopedics.

**orthodontia** Treatment of malocclusion and other neuromuscular and skeletal abnormalities of the teeth and their surrounding structures.

**orthognathia** Branch of oral medicine pertaining to the cause and treatment of abnormal positioning of the jawbones.

**orthognathic** Causes and treatments of malpositioned jawbones.

**orthopnea** Shortness of breath when lying down that is relieved upon resuming an upright position.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 786.02 Associated ICD-10-CM Code(s): R06.01

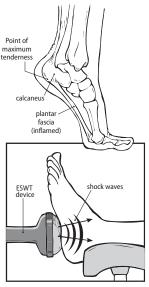
**orthoptics** Treatment of defective eye coordination, binocular vision, and functional amblyopia by non-medical/surgical methods including glasses, exercises, and prisms. The treatment is focused on

improving the function of the eye muscles, especially useful in strabismus.

#### Associated CPT Code(s): 92065

**orthosis** Derived from a Greek word meaning "to make straight," it is an artificial appliance that supports, aligns, or corrects an anatomical deformity or improves the use of a moveable body part. Unlike a prosthesis, an orthotic device is always functional in nature.

#### Orthospec ECSW/OssaTron



The clinician treats the patient's plantar fasciitis with extracorporeal shock waves

**Orthospec ECSW** Brand name extracorporeal shock wave therapy device for relief of plantar fasciitis.

Associated CPT Code(s): 28890

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 728.71

**orthostatic hypotension** Low blood pressure that occurs when standing from a sitting or lying position.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 458.0 Associated ICD-10-CM Code(s): 195.1

orthostatic hypotensive-dysautonomic dyskinetic syndrome Nerves between the striatum and pallidum are completely demyelinated or damaged. **Synonym(s):** Déjérine-Thomas syndrome, Hallervorden-Spatz disease.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 333.0 Associated ICD-10-CM Code(s): G23.0

**orthotic** Associated with the making and fitting of an orthosis(es).

orthotopic Natural, normal site or proper body position.

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