



Coders' Dictionary

2016

Introduction

Congratulations on your decision to purchase the seventh 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 *Coders' Dictionary* is not to provide definitions for all conceivable medical terms, but to provide definitions for those terms in the medical record that may confound a coder or biller. Readers should not expect to find a definition for "femur" in this book, as a certain basic level of medical terminology knowledge is presumed of a coder. A reader will, however, find in *Coders' Dictionary* a definition for "WIT," an acronym for water-induced thermotherapy, a minimally invasive treatment for benign prostatic hyperplasia. WIT is not defined in most medical dictionaries.

To create *Coders' Dictionary*, Optum coding experts generated a list of ambiguous or vexing words found in the medical record or in billing and reimbursement communications. 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.

This edition of the *Coders' Dictionary* includes ICD-10-CM PCS root operations and body part key terms. These terms can be found in tables within their individual sections following the illustrations on page 25.

In addition, a number of ICD-10 terms have been added and are marked accordingly with an ICD-10 icon (I-10). For the purposes of this publication, this icon has been assigned to those ICD-10 terms referenced by governmental agencies and Optum coding experts. The icon allows the coder to easily identify ICD-10 terms throughout the *Coder's Dictionary*.

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

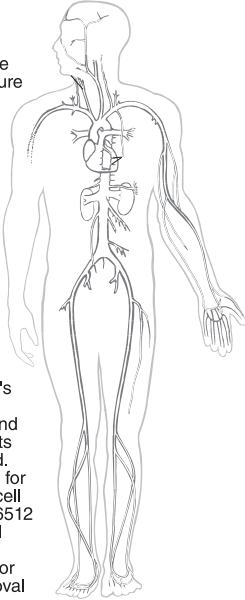
Prefixes and suffixes used in medical terminology are incorporated alphabetically into the main body of the book. These are not complete words; only the beginning (prefix) or end (suffix) of a word appears with its meaning. Each partial word has a meaning:

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

-ectomy Excision, removal. (suffix)

Apheresis

Blood is returned to circulation in the course of the procedure



The patient's blood is withdrawn and components are isolated. Report 36511 for white blood cell separation; 36512 for red cell removal; and 36513 for platelet removal

apheresis Process of extracting blood from a donor, centrifuging or separating the desired part of the blood, and transfusing the remainder back into the donor.

aphthae Small ulcers of the oral mucosa that resemble a grayish canker-type lesion within a red ring, commonly seen in patients on chemotherapy. **Synonym(s):** recurrent aphthous stomatitis.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 528.2

apical ballooning syndrome Acute but reversible cardiomyopathy mimicking myocardial infarct or coronary syndrome. Described as "stunned myocardium," it occurs in women who have recently suffered a traumatic event.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 429.89

apical-aortic conduit Channel created between the tip of the left ventricle and the aorta, above the coronary arteries, with a valve allowing blood to flow out of the heart only. Creation of this conduit is done to correct transposition of the great vessels (TGV) and allow oxygenated blood to be circulated through the body. **Synonym(s):** TGV correction.

apicoectomy Removal of the root tip of an abscessed tooth along with the diseased tissue that surrounds it. It may be performed in conjunction with root canal therapy. **Synonym(s):** root end resection.

Associated ICD-9-CM Vol 3 Code(s): 23.72, 23.73

Associated HCPCS Code(s): D3410-D3426

APL Abductor pollicis longus. Long abductor muscle of the thumb.

aplasia Incomplete development of an organ or tissue. Aplasia may be congenital (present at birth) or acquired. ICD-9-CM provides multiple codes to report this condition depending on site and underlying etiology.

aplasia axialis extracorticalis Inherited degenerative brain disease manifested by gradually advancing white matter sclerosis of the frontal lobes, mental deficits, and vasomotor disorders. **Synonym(s):** hereditary cerebral leukodystrophy, Merzbacher-Pelizaeus disease, Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 330.0

aplastic anemia Failure of the bone marrow to produce sufficient red blood cells. Underlying causes can include neoplasm, toxic exposure, infections, certain drugs, or radiation.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 284

apleuria Congenital absence of one or more ribs.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 756.3

Apley test Diagnostic maneuver used to help differentiate injury to ligaments from injury of the meniscus. The patient lies prone with the knee flexed and the tibia is compressed into the femur, pulled from the femur (distracted), and rotated internally and externally. Pain with compression suggests meniscal injury, while pain with distraction and compression suggests ligament injury.

Apligraf Brand name bioengineered skin for treatment of skin ulcers.

Associated CPT Code(s): 15271-15278

Associated HCPCS Code(s): Q4101

APLS Antiphospholipid antibody syndrome.

APM Arterial pressure monitoring.

apnea Absence of breathing or breath.

apnea monitor Device used to monitor breathing during sleep that sounds an alarm if breathing stops for more than the specified amount of time.

apodia Congenital absence of one or both feet.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 755.31

apolipoprotein Constituent of lipoproteins (e.g., LDL, VLDL) synthesized in the liver and released as part of the low-density lipoprotein particle. It participates in delivery of cholesterol to the cells and is measured in relation to coronary risk factors. **Synonym(s):** Apo B, Apolipoprotein B.

aponeurectomy Excision of an aponeurosis, the flat, white, stringy tissue that extends from a tendon to connect a muscle to its moving part. CPT does not address this directly, as this is usually performed in the course of other tendon and muscle work.

pterygomaxillary fossa Wide depression on the external surface of the maxilla above and to the side of the canine tooth socket.

PTH Parathyroid hormone.

PTHC Percutaneous transhepatic cholangiography. Diagnostic procedure to identify obstructions in the liver or bile ducts.

Associated CPT Code(s): 74320

PTK Phototherapeutic keratectomy. Removal by laser of diseased outer layers of the cornea.

Associated CPT Code(s): 65400

Associated HCPCS Code(s): S0812

PTLD Post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorder.

PTMPY Per thousand members per year.

Ptosis

Ptosis is a weakness causing droop



Patient has ptosis in his right eye

ptosis Drooping or displacement of the upper eyelid, caused by paralysis, muscle problems, or outside mechanical forces. **Synonym(s):** blepharoptosis.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 374.30-374.33, 743.61

ptosis-epicanthus syndrome Eyebrow or upper or lower eyelid sags. **Synonym(s):** Mendes syndrome, van der Hoeve-Halbertsma-Waardenburg syndrome, Waardenburg-Klein syndrome.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 270.2

PTPN Peripheral total parenteral nutrition. When a patient cannot tolerate enteral feeding (a tube into the stomach), nutrients are provided intravenously, through

a peripheral vein. PTPN has a lower concentration of dextrose, because peripheral veins are irritated by higher concentrations. PTPN is usually associated with short-term parenteral feeding.

PTSD Post traumatic stress disorder.

Associated ICD-9-CM Code(s): 309.81

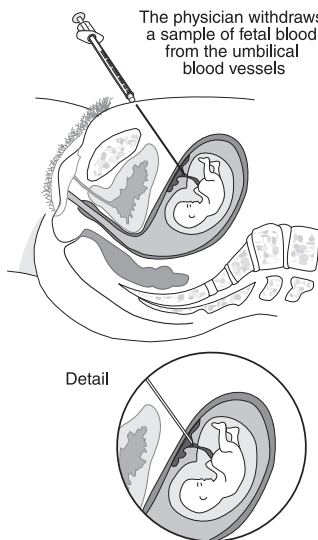
PTT Partial thromboplastin time.

pubiotomy Surgical division of the pubic bone laterally to the symphysis pubis, performed in order to facilitate delivery of an infant. **Synonym(s):** Gigli's operation, obstetrical symphysiotomy, pelviotomy.

Associated ICD-9-CM Vol 3 Code(s): 73.94

PUBS

PUBS is an acronym for percutaneous umbilical blood sampling



PUBS Percutaneous umbilical blood sampling. Blood is removed by aspiration from the fetal umbilical cord for testing. A needle is inserted through the mother's abdomen and uterus, and with ultrasound guidance, into the fetal umbilical cord. Radiological supervision and interpretation is reported separately. **Synonym(s):** cordocentesis.

Associated CPT Code(s): 59012, 76941

PUD 1) Peptic ulcer disease. **2)** Periurethral diathermy.

pudendal nerve Nerve that serves most of the perineum and the external anal sphincter and provides sensation to the external genitalia.

pudendal nerve entrapment Source of chronic pain and numbness of the perineum, genitalia, and/or anus with foreign body sensation in the urethra, vagina, or