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ICD-10-CM: Introduction, Structure and Conventions

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CARD 02-001 | TERM	CARD 02-001 | DEFINITION
Alphabetic Index Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery	The alphabetical guide used to locate a condition and its potential ICD-10-CM code; the code must then be verified in the Tabular List.
CARD 02-002 | TERM	**CARD 02-002 | DEFINITION**
Category Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery	A three-character ICD-10-CM grouping; additional characters may be required for a complete reportable code.
CARD 02-003 | TERM	**CARD 02-003 | DEFINITION**
Code first Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery	An instruction to sequence the underlying condition before the code bearing this note, when applicable.

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CARD 02-004 | TERM

Code also

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-004 | DEFINITION

An instruction that another code may be needed; sequencing depends on the documented circumstances and applicable rules.

CARD 02-005 | TERM

Default code

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-005 | DEFINITION

The code shown next to an Index main term, representing the commonly associated condition or an unspecified form.

CARD 02-006 | TERM

Etiology

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-006 | DEFINITION

The cause or origin of a disease.

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CARD 02-007 | TERM

Excludes1

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-007 | DEFINITION

A note meaning the excluded condition is not coded here. Limited exceptions apply when the two conditions are unrelated.

CARD 02-008 | TERM

Excludes2

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-008 | DEFINITION

A note meaning the excluded condition is not part of this code; both conditions may be reported when both are present.

CARD 02-009 | TERM

Includes note

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-009 | DEFINITION

A note giving examples or further defining the content of a category or code.

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CARD 02-010 | TERM

Laterality

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-010 | DEFINITION

Identification of a condition's side: right, left, bilateral, or unspecified, as available in the code set.

CARD 02-011 | TERM

Main term

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-011 | DEFINITION

The primary word used to begin an Alphabetic Index search, often the condition rather than the body site.

CARD 02-012 | TERM

Manifestation

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-012 | DEFINITION

A condition or effect resulting from an underlying disease.

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CARD 02-013 | TERM

NEC (Not Elsewhere Classifiable)

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-013 | DEFINITION

Not Elsewhere Classifiable: the documentation is specific, but the classification lacks a separate more specific code.

CARD 02-014 | TERM

NOS (Not Otherwise Specified)

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-014 | DEFINITION

Not Otherwise Specified: the documentation does not supply enough detail for a more specific code.

CARD 02-015 | TERM

Placeholder character (X)

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-015 | DEFINITION

The character X used in designated ICD-10-CM codes to hold a position or allow required characters to occupy the correct place.

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CARD 02-016 | TERM	CARD 02-016 | DEFINITION
Section Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery	A subdivision of a classification or reference manual; use its heading to understand the rules applying to that group.
CARD 02-017 | TERM	**CARD 02-017 | DEFINITION**
Sequela Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery	A residual effect remaining after the acute phase of an illness or injury has ended.
CARD 02-018 | TERM	**CARD 02-018 | DEFINITION**
Seventh character Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery	An additional character required in certain categories to specify information such as encounter phase or fracture healing status.

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CARD 02-019 | TERM

Subterm

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-019 | DEFINITION

An indented Index entry that further specifies the main term, such as type, site, or associated condition.

CARD 02-020 | TERM

Tabular List

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-020 | DEFINITION

The numerical/alphanumeric listing where codes, descriptions, and instructional notes are verified.

CARD 02-021 | TERM

Subcategory

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-021 | DEFINITION

A subdivision of an ICD-10-CM category that adds detail; more characters may still be required for a complete code.

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CARD 02-022 | TERM

Specificity

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-022 | DEFINITION

The level of detail in a code, such as site, type, laterality, or encounter phase.

CARD 02-023 | TERM

Index main term

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-023 | DEFINITION

The principal word under which a condition is located in the Alphabetic Index.

CARD 02-024 | TERM

Initial encounter

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-024 | DEFINITION

In designated injury codes, an encounter involving active treatment; it is not necessarily the patient's first visit.

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CARD 02-025 | TERM

Subsequent encounter

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-025 | DEFINITION

In designated injury codes, an encounter for routine healing or recovery after active treatment.

CARD 02-026 | TERM

See note

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-026 | DEFINITION

An Index cross-reference directing the coder to another main term before selecting a code.

CARD 02-027 | TERM

See also note

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-027 | DEFINITION

An Index cross-reference to additional information that may help when the original entry is insufficient.

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CARD 02-028 | TERM

Bracket

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-028 | DEFINITION

An ICD-10-CM punctuation symbol with different functions by location; in the Index it can identify a manifestation code.

CARD 02-029 | TERM

Parenthesis

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-029 | DEFINITION

Punctuation enclosing nonessential modifiers: words that may be present or absent without changing that entry's code assignment.

CARD 02-030 | TERM

Nonessential modifier

Corrina Lynch | Medical Coding Mastery

CARD 02-030 | DEFINITION

A word enclosed in parentheses in the Index that does not change the code selection for the entry.