

Agenda

Learning Objectives

- Name three elements required for Medical Decision Making in 2021 for new and established patient visit Evaluation and Management (E/M) codes.
- Differentiate Time ranges and requirements in the current and 2021 E/M guidelines.
- Apply the correct guidelines depending on the category of E/M service.

Comparing Original to 2021 Guidelines for New & Established Outpatient Visit Codes

15 min

- Where did this new information come from?
- Converting prior E/M code selection and guidelines to 2021 E/M code selection and guidelines
- Key elements: Medical Decision Making and Time
- What about History and Exam documentation?
- Incorporating medical necessity into 2021 E/M documentation

2021 Using Medical Decision Making to Determine Level

95 min

- **Incorporating the Newly Redefined Medical Decision Making Elements**
- **Element #1: Number and Complexity of Problems Addressed**
 - Problems, Illnesses & Injuries: how are they defined?
 - Acute vs chronic
 - How is the complexity of the problem determined?
 - Counting the number of problems. What constitutes a separate problem?
 - *Exercises: Determining number of Problems in Plastic Surgery*
- **Element #2: Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed**
 - Defining Data: Category 1
 - What is an external note?
 - What is a unique data test?
 - What is a unique source?
 - Who qualifies as an independent historian and how is this role documented?
 - *Exercises: Identifying unique tests and notes in Plastic Surgery*
 - Defining Data: Category 2
 - Documenting independent interpretation
 - Defining Data: Category 3
 - What constitutes a discussion of management or tests?
 - Who qualifies as an external or other source?

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Element #3: Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Defining level of Risk: what does CPT say? ➤ Documenting level of Risk. Do the current Risk table examples still apply? ➤ How do test and treatment decisions impact co-morbidity and risk? ➤ <i>Exercises: Determining level of Risk in Plastic Surgery</i> • Documentation Tips by Element: Problems Addressed, Data Reviewed/Analyzed, and Risk 	
<p>2021: Using Time to Determine Level of Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is included in the new ranges? • What work and whose work is counted when time is used? • Using prolonged service codes with time codes in 2021 • <i>Exercises: Using Time to determine level of service in Plastic Surgery</i> 	20 min
<p>Exercises: Documentation Review Using 2021 Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auditing documentation with the new tool 	30 min
<p>Documentation Tips to a Successful Transition</p>	15 min
<p>Operational Steps to a Successful Transition</p>	5 min