ICD-10 Coding Tip

Dislocation, Lumbar Vertebra

In an effort to aid Health Information Management Coding and Medical Billing Professionals with ICD-10, the following training tip is provided with an educational intent.

**Lumbar Vertebra Dislocation Defined:** The physiological interruption of the lumbar spine, resulting from an impact that causes one vertebra to shift position over the vertebrae below it.

**Subluxation** is a partial dislocation. These are classified to the Injuries to lower back, lumbar spine, etc. A new term added in ICD-10-CM (following adoption by The World Health Organization) under Diseases of the Musculoskeletal system is *biomechanical lesion*, a loss of cohesion of tissue, a major condition treated by chiropractic physicians, code category M99.-, with subcategories for various sections of the body including subluxation complex of the lumbar (vertebral) region.

**Signs and Symptoms:** The primary symptom is moderate to severe back pain made worse by movement. With spinal cord involvement: numbness, tingling, weakness, or bowel and bladder dysfunction.

**Underlying Causes:** Trauma from high-impact contact sports, motor-vehicle accidents, falls, skiing and diving accidents, and injuries from strains, blasts or falling objects.

**ICD-9 Coding:** Dislocation, Lumbar Vertebra: 839.20

**ICD-10 Coding:** (7th character needed for S33.- Initial, Subsequent, or Sequela Encounter)

Traumatic rupture of lumbar intervertebral disc: S33.0XX-

Dislocation, Lumbar Joint: S33.1-

| L1 and L2 - | Subluxation | S33.110: Dislocation | S33.111 |
| L2 and L3 - | Subluxation | S33.120: Dislocation | S33.121 |
| L3 and L4 - | Subluxation | S33.130: Dislocation | S33.131 |
| L4 and L5 - | Subluxation | S33.140: Dislocation | S33.141 |

**Biomechanical Lesion, NEC, Subluxation complex (vertebral), of lumbar region:** M99.13

References: Reed Group, Medical Disability Advisor, MDGuidelines; mdhil.com, health directory; dynamicchiropractic.com, vol 32, Number 1; Chiro.org blog

*Coding Clinic is the official resource and authority for ICD-10 coding rules and conventions.*

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