

**ICD-10-PCS Coding Tip**

**Character 3: Root Operation**

**In an effort to aid Health Information Management Coding Professionals for ICD-10, the following coding tip is provided with an educational intent.**

**The third character (root operation) defines the objective of the procedure. There are a total of 31 root operations used for PCS coding and each root operation has its own definition for proper use. In the Medical and Surgical and related sections, the root operation is used as the main term in the Index.**



**Root  
Operation**

**Alteration  
Bypass  
Change  
Control  
Creation  
Destruction  
Detachment  
Dilation**

**Division  
Drainage  
Excision  
Extirpation  
Extraction  
Fragmentation  
Fusion  
Insertion**

**Inspection  
Map  
Occlusion  
Reattachment  
Release  
Removal  
Repair  
Replacement**

**Reposition  
Resection  
Restriction  
Revision  
Supplement  
Transfer  
Transplantation**

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

This coding tip sheet was developed by the CHIA Coding and Data Quality Committee as an educational resource 2012.