ICD-10 Coding Tip
Obstetrics – Trimester Designation

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

TIP: Chapter 15, Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium (O00-O9A), in ICD-10 is significantly different from ICD-9-CM. Codes from Chapter 15 are used only on maternal records and never on newborn infant records

The majority of codes in Chapter 15 have a final character indicating the trimester of pregnancy. Trimesters are counted from the first day of the last menstrual period. The time frames for the trimesters are:

▶ **1st Trimester: less than 14 weeks, 0 days**

▶ **2nd Trimester: 14 weeks, 0 days to less than 28 weeks, 0 days**

▶ **3rd Trimester: 28 weeks, 0 days until delivery**

Assignment of the final character for trimester should be based on the physician's documentation of the trimester (or number of weeks) for the current admission/encounter.

Use additional code from category Z3A, Weeks of gestation, to identify the specific week of pregnancy

ICD-Trivia: What "letter" in the alphabet is used as the "first character" to denote codes from Chapter 15, Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium?

ICD-Trivia Answer: Obstetric cases require codes in the range of "O00-O9A. Letter "O", digit zero, digit zero, an interesting coincidence given these "O" codes are for Obstetrics.

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 educaitonal resource 2012.