

Codefile

Quarterly Newsletter of the
Queensland Coding Committee

E-Bulletin Volume 20

Issue No. 32

Inside this Issue

- 1 Coding Auditing/
Education Update
- 2 Codefinder Update
- 3 Performance Indicators
for Coding Quality (PICQ)
Update
- 4 Coding Standards
Advisory Committee
(CSAC) Update
- 5 QCC Update
- 6 Pilot collection of MRIC &
NACSC (Known in
HBCIS as OCOI)
- 7 Coders InSite
- 8 Procedure code for ORIF
neck of femur: The value
of validation edits
- 9 Contact Details

Queensland Coding
Committee
Statistical Standards Unit
Health Statistics Centre

Queensland Health
GPO BOX 48
BRISBANE 4001

1. Coding Auditing/ Education Update

The Coding Auditing and Education team is currently completing audit reports for Townsville General Hospital, The Prince Charles Hospital, Gold Coast Hospital and Redland Hospital.

2. Codefinder Update

The Statistical Standards Unit (SSU) continues to provide Codefinder support to all public hospital clinical coding personnel.

3M Codefinder version 5.0.1 was rolled out to all Queensland Health facilities in February 2009. Meegan Snell from 3M has commenced site visits. During these visits Meegan will meet with Clinical Coders to demonstrate the functionality and enhancements associated with the 3M Codefinder release v5.0.1.

Clinical Coders in Public Queensland Health facilities who require Codefinder assistance should contact the acting Codefinder Support Officer Stephanie Ferdinands at Codefinder@qld.health.gov.au or alternatively please telephone Corrie on (07) 323 41001.

Support issues include reporting faults with any of the coding pathways, advice and assistance with the use of certain Codefinder features and the installation process for the new releases.

3. Performance Indicator for Coding Quality (PICQ) Update

The Health Statistics Centre (HSC), Centre for Healthcare Improvement (CHI), has purchased a state wide licence for Performance Indicators for Coding Quality (PICQ) 2008 from the National Centre for Classification in Health (NCCH).

The HSC will be providing PICQ 2008 **free** to all public and private Hospitals and Health Service Districts that provide coded hospital morbidity data to Queensland Health. PICQ 2008 will be available in the near future.

The PICQ 2008 version contains a series of indicators that analyse admitted patient hospital morbidity data coded with ICD-10-AM 6th edition and the Australian Classification of Health Interventions (ACHI) 6th Edition.

All Queensland hospitals that supply Queensland Health with coded morbidity data are eligible to obtain a copy of PICQ.

Please keep an eye out on the [Coders InSite website](#) or the [Queensland Coding Committee website](#) for future updates in regards to the availability and release of PICQ 2008.

4. Coding Standard Advisory Committee (CSAC) Update

The first CSAC meeting for 2009 will be held in Sydney on Friday 20 February 2009. There are a number of addenda proposals including; Tibial plateau fractures; Composite grafts with CABG; Skin Flaps; Congenital malformations of the nervous system; Other congenital malformations; Congenital malformations of ear; ear; face and neck; Chromosomal abnormalities; Congenital malformations of the circulatory system; Congenital malformations of the musculoskeletal system; ACS 1806 Falls; DIEP flap; Chronic haemorrhagic gastritis.

5. QCC Update

The first Queensland Coding Committee meeting for 2009 was held on 12 February 2009. Thank you to the Ipswich Hospital hosting this meeting. The next QCC meeting will be on 19 March 2009. This meeting will mark the 200th meeting of the QCC. To celebrate this milestone we are having an afternoon tea for past and current QCC members on 19 March 2009. If you are a past member of the QCC and would like to attend this event please contact the QCC Convenor on qcc@health.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 3234 0609.

The QCC website (<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/qcc/>) has recently been updated. July - October 2008 meeting minutes have now been posted as well as the 2009 Meeting schedule.

The QCC supports and promotes coded data quality and standardisation. To further encourage these efforts, the QCC secretariat will be forwarding the NCCH Coding Matters on a quarterly basis to clinical coders and Health Information Managers in public and private hospitals throughout Queensland.

All clinical coders and HIMS are encouraged to read the 10-AM Commandments and Coding FAQ's that are published within Coding Matters.

It is intended that from 2009 outcomes of QCC queries will be released on a quarterly basis in-line with the national release of advice. This will allow for planned implementation of advice for improved coded data quality and analysis. The aim is that this initiative will see improved communication of advice and coded data provision.

6. Most Resource Intensive Condition (MRIC) Indicator and Non-Australian Coding Standard Compliant (NACSC) Indicator Pilot

The volunteer pilot collection of the new indicators, the Most Resource Intensive Condition (MRIC) indicator and the Non Australian Coding Standard Compliant (NACSC) indicator (Known in HBCIS as OCOI) continues in 2009. Participation in this pilot should be for hospitals that have been permitted (by their District Managers / Chief Executive Officers). All other hospitals are **not** to collect these indicators.

More pilot volunteers are welcome. If you are interested in volunteering first ensure that your facility has permission from your District Manager / Chief Executive Officers to take part in the pilot of the MRIC and NACSC. Once permission has been confirmed, then please contact the Statistical Standards unit contacts: Corrie Martin via phone (07) 3234 1001 or email Sabina_martin@health.qld.gov.au or Stephanie Ferdinands via phone (07) 3234 0609 or email Stephanie_Ferdinands@health.qld.gov.au

7. Coders InSite

The Coders InSite website <http://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/qhcs/home.htm> has been updated with new documentation on the Codefinder v5.0.1. Information on PICQ 2008 will be released on this website in the near future.

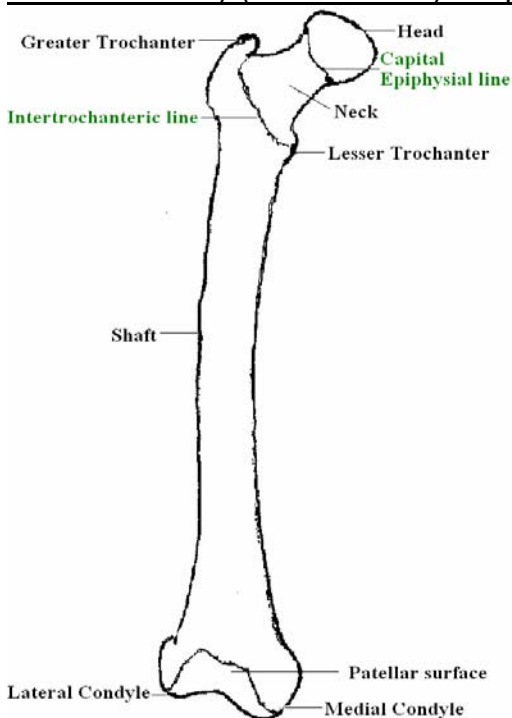
If you have a coding resource you would like to submit to Coders InSite, or even an event you wish to advertise, please contact Matthew Shaw at Matthew.L.Shaw@health.qld.gov.au or Stephanie Ferdinands at Stephanie.Ferdinands@health.qld.gov.au. There are also helpful guidelines on how to submit a resource, located on the Coders InSite website: http://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/qhcs/html/publish_process.htm.

8. Procedure code for ORIF neck of femur—the value of validation edits

The procedure code 47528-01 *Open reduction of fracture of femur with internal fixation* should not be used when the fracture being reduced and fixed is of the proximal femur.

During the period 1/7/07 to 30/6/08, the Data Collections Unit engendered validation messages for 144 episodes (spread across 15 public and 19 private hospitals) where 47528-01 *Open reduction of fracture of femur with internal fixation* had been used in conjunction with a code indicating presence of a fracture of the proximal femur.

Femur anatomy (anterior view) and proximal fracture index terms



ICD-10-AM Index terms for proximal femur sites:

- head S72.08
- neck S72.00
- base S72.05
- cervicotrochanteric (section) S72.05
- epiphysis (separation) (upper) S72.02 *
- intracapsular (section) S72.01
- midcervical (section) S72.04
- specified NEC S72.08
- subcapital (section) S72.03
- transcervical S72.04
- pertrochanteric S72.10
- intertrochanteric S72.11
- intratrochanteric S72.11
- transtrochanteric S72.10
- trochanteric (greater) (lesser) S72.10
- subtrochanteric (region) (section) S72.2

* Note that reduction of the epiphysis is coded to block [1493]

ACHI Index

The ACHI, index when looking up ORIF femur is as follows:

Reduction

...

- fracture (bone) (with cast) (with splint)

...

-- femur (closed) 47516-01 [1486]

--- with internal fixation (cross) (intramedullary) 47531-00 [1486]

---- neck 47519-00 [1479]

---- proximal 47519-00 [1479]

---- subcapital 47519-00 [1479]

---- trochanteric 47519-00 [1479]

--- epiphysis (capital) (slipped) 47525-00 [1493]

--- open 47528-00 [1486]

---- with internal fixation (cross) (intramedullary) 47528-01 [1486]

---- epiphysis (capital) (slipped) 47525-01 [1493]

Non – Essential Modifiers

Note that the entry "-- femur" is followed by a non essential modifier 'closed'. A non essential modifier is a term in parentheses which follows a main term or subterm. These terms may be present in the procedure description *or not* and their presence or absence does not affect code selection. (see - ACS 0041 *Conventions used in the alphabetic index of interventions*)

Hence reduction of a fractured femur with internal fixation specified as 'neck', 'proximal', 'subcapital' or 'trochanteric' is coded to 47519-00 [1479] *Internal fixation of fracture of trochanteric or subcapital femur* regardless of whether the reduction is closed or open.

Inclusion Terms

It may seem disconcerting that an open reduction has been performed, yet there is no mention of 'reduction' in the 47519-00 code title. However use of the code is supported by the 'inclusion' note in the ACHI tabular at 47519-00 "*Includes: reduction of fracture*". Inclusion terms are listed directly under a block heading or code description and give examples of terms which are categorised to the code or block. (see – ACS 0040 *Conventions used in the tabular list of interventions*)

Hence any reduction of a fractured femur (specified as 'subcapital' or 'trochanteric' or other term such as 'neck' or 'proximal' which is classified to 47519-00) is included in the code 47519-00 [1479] *Internal fixation of fracture of trochanteric or subcapital femur*.

Exclusion Terms

When looking up the ACHI index, it is equally logical to follow the look - up pathway;

Reduction

...

- fracture (bone) (with cast) (with splint)

...

-- femur (closed) 47516-01 [1486]
...
--- open 47528-00 [1486]
---- with internal fixation (cross) (intramedullary) 47528-01 [1486]

At first glance it may appear that the code for ORIF femur is 47528-01 [1486] *Open reduction of fracture of femur with internal fixation*. This is true with the **exception** of that of “proximal femur”. When assigning a code, both the Index and the Tabular List should be consulted before a code is assigned. (see - ACS Appendix A - Basic Coding Guidelines). In the ACHI tabular, there is an ‘excludes’ note at 47528-01; “*Excludes: that of proximal femur 47519-00 [1479]*”. Terms following the word ‘excludes’ are to be coded elsewhere as indicated in each case. (see - ACS *Conventions used in the tabular list of interventions*)

Hence ORIF of proximal femur should be coded to 47519-00 *Internal fixation of fracture of trochanteric or subcapital* **not** 47528-01 *Open reduction of fracture of femur with internal fixation*.

3M Codefinder Pathway

When using the 3M Codefinder to code ORIF femur specified as ‘neck’, ‘proximal’, ‘subcapital’ or ‘trochanteric’ etc., it is necessary to choose the pathway option for “*that of proximal femur*”. The suitability of code assignment may be checked using the ‘view reference’ function by right clicking on the selected code in the code display window.

Validation Edits

To avert the potential for acceptance of incorrect data, the Data Collections Unit created a validation edit (fatal) to flag episodes where a code for femoral fracture: ‘neck’, ‘trochanteric’, ‘intertrochanteric’ or ‘subtrochanteric’ (S72.00 – S72.01, S72.03 – S72.08, S72.10 – S72.11, S72.2) has been used in conjunction with a code for ORIF fractured femur other than 47519-00 *Internal fixation of fracture of trochanteric or subcapital*. The error message received is H570: *ICD code PR4752801 cannot be provided with a code in the range D S7200-S7201, D S7203-S7208, D S7210-S7211, D S722*.

If you have an episode with this validation message, please check the episode carefully.

Due to misunderstanding of the validation message and correct coding convention, the Data Collections Unit is often advised that coding is correct, yet it is not.

A combination of any code in the ranges S72.00 – S72.01, S72.03 – S72.08, S72.10 – S72.11, S72.2 with 47528-01 is correct only if the patient had a proximal fracture of the femur **and** another femoral fracture (e.g. shaft) for which an ORIF was performed. In this case Data Collections Unit will ‘map’ and record the code combination as valid for that episode.

For all other episodes it is necessary to **review the patient chart** to determine whether the femoral fracture condition code is correct and whether the procedure should have been coded to 47519-00.

Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated!

9. Codefile Comments, Queries and Suggestions [Home](#)

Please forward your Codefile comments, queries or suggestions to:

The Convenor
Queensland Coding Committee
Statistical Standards Unit
Health Statistics Centre
Queensland Health
GPO Box 48
Brisbane QLD 4001

Telephone: (07) 323 40609
Facsimile: 07 3234 0564
Email: QCC@health.qld.gov.au