



Home Care Coding Specialist – Diagnosis (HCS-D) 2010 Study Outline for the Certification Examination

This outline is designed to provide representative examples of the issues covered on the HCS-D 2010 certification examination. It is not inclusive of every issue addressed within the examination. Competency note: In order to code specific codes correctly, exam test-takers must understand basic competencies, like the ones listed below. It is worth time to review and make sure you understand how basic competencies interact before you take the test.

Important Note: The HCS-D exam follows the OASIS Guidance Manual instructions and Appendix D instructions for coding in M1024. The test follows Official Coding Guidelines, as these documents instruct.

OASIS-C Note: The HCS-D will switch over to OASIS-C coding in 2010 with the assessment change, Jan. 1, 2010

OASIS, Coding and relationship to PPS

Diagnosis Related Forms – OASIS, POC, UB-04

M1010, M1016, M1020, M1022

M1024

Case-mix and case-mix diagnosis

Upcoding

Placement of V and E codes in OASIS

Basic Coding Concepts

Selecting principal and secondary diagnosis codes

Manifestation coding and conventions for identifying manifestation codes

Coding Conventions, such as essential modifiers, italics,
NOS, NEC

Appropriate use of V codes

Sequencing, including application of coding conventions
and critical thinking

Coding symptoms appropriately

Proximal vs. underlying conditions

Conditions integral to main condition

Application of Coding Concepts to Home Care

Surgical aftercare, surgical wounds and coding the conditions responsible for surgery

Complication codes vs. aftercare V code assignment vs.
late effects

Injury and trauma codes

Combination coding and multiple coding for a single disease

Poisoning and adverse effects

CVAs in home health

Manifestations of Diabetes and choosing the correct 5th digit

Acute fracture coding with traumatic and pathologic fractures

Symptom table for diagnosis codes, OASIS

Neoplasms—primary and secondary malignancies

Medical Terminology issues are incorporated in scenarios

Diagnostic Statements

Heart Failure

Anemia as a stand-alone disease and when caused by other factors

*Note on testing: Case-mix lists will **not** be provided to test-takers with the new exams. All major publishers include notations within the book text of what codes are case-mix. This will be sufficient to work with the exam.*