

Dermatology Coding Alert

ICD-10: Psoriasis Coding Gains More Specificity

696.1 is out; L40.- will be in.

Although it is not exclusively a skin condition, the most common form of psoriasis, plaque psoriasis, manifests as red and white, scaly patches on the top layer of the skin. There are a few other varieties, however, and the ICD-9 diagnosis coding system does not do very much to distinguish between them.

When ICD-10 comes into effect in 2015, you will no longer use ICD-9 code 696.1 (Other psoriasis and similar disorders) to describe psoriasis cases excluding psoriatic arthropathy. The new ICD-10 diagnosis codes will distinguish between specific dermatological psoriasis conditions:

- L40.0 □ Psoriasis vulgaris (the most common type of psoriasis, also known as plaque psoriasis)
- L40.1 □ Generalized pustular psoriasis
- L40.2 □ Acrodermatitis continua (also known as dermatitis repens, acrodermatitis perstans, pustular acrodermatitis, acrodermatitis continua of Hallopeau, acrodermatitis continua suppurativa Hallopeau, Hallopeau's acrodermatitis, Hallopeau's acrodermatitis continua, and dermatitis repens Crocker)
- L40.3 □ Pustulosis palmaris et plantaris (pustulosis of the hands and soles)
- L40.4 □ Guttate psoriasis
- L40.8 □ Other psoriasis (including flexural psoriasis)
- L40.9 □ Psoriasis, unspecified

Don't miss: ICD-10 has been delayed until 2015 □ learn more in the next issue of Dermatology Coding Alert.