

Eli's Rehab Report

CMS Announces New ICD-9 Codes for 2003

On June 20, CMS released Program Memorandum AB-01-085, which lists the changes to ICD-9 Codes for 2003. Although Medicare will accept these codes beginning Oct. 1, carriers must still process claims using the old codes and definitions through Dec. 31. The code deletions were not particularly relevant to PM&R practices, but several additions should help physiatrists and therapists code more smoothly. The additions that will most affect PM&R practices follow:

277.02 Cystic fibrosis with pulmonary manifestations

277.03 Cystic fibrosis with gastrointestinal manifestations (use additional code to identify any infectious organism present, such as pseudomonas [041.7])

277.09 Cystic fibrosis with other manifestations

357.81 Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuritis

357.82 Critical illness polyneuropathy (acute motor neuropathy)

357.89 Other inflammatory and toxic neuropathy

359.81 Critical illness myopathy (includes acute quadriplegic myopathy)

359.89 Other myopathies

438.6 Alterations of sensations

438.7 Disturbances of vision (use additional code to describe the visual disturbance)

438.83 Facial weakness (facial droop)

438.84 Ataxia

438.85 Vertigo

781.93 Ocular torticollis.