

Outpatient Facility Coding Alert

You Be the Coder: Don't Forget To Upgrade To A92.5 for A Zika Diagnosis

Question: Our provider recently saw an expecting female patient complaining of headaches. She had a confirmed diagnosis of Zika. The provider reported a level-three office E/M service. Have there been any changes in how you should report an ICD-10 code for the Zika virus?

Washington, DC Subscriber

Answer: The ICD-10-CM 2017 update brings you a new ICD-10 code for Zika: A92.5 (Zika virus disease).

Remember: You'll use this code for all Zika related E/M services the physician provides after October 1, when ICD-10 2017 takes effect. So if the date of service for your claim is on or after October 1, you should report 99213 (Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an established patient, which requires at least 2 of these 3 key components: an expanded problem focused history; an expanded problem focused examination; medical decision making of low complexity...) for the E/M with A92.5 appended.

If you are coding for services dated before Oct. 1, 2016, however, you should not report A92.5. Before the new code came along, coders reported most instances of Zika with A92.8 (Other specified mosquito-borne viral fevers).

Check it out: To see a complete list of the 2017 ICD-10 code additions, deletions, and revisions, see www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm.