

Home Health ICD-9/ICD-10 Alert

Reader Question: Teaching Yourself To Code? Check Out These Resources

Question: Our clinicians do their own coding. Could you provide a basic bibliography of resources or reference material we could have to research coding questions?

Answer: The most important item is a copy of the current ICD-9 CM Coding Manual - **Ingenix** has a good one. If you have not already done so, order your 2005 books right away. You'll need to use them starting Oct. 1 (see Article 1). The **American Hospital Association** (www.ahaonlinestore.com) has several coding books that allow beginning coders to practice and then check their answers. The **American Health Information Management Association** (<http://www.ahima.org>) also has basic coding books available, as well as online courses specific to home health coding. Instructions and examples on the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services'** OASIS Web site (www.cms.hhs.gov/oasis) also provide basic information for home health coders.

Reader questions were answered by **Lynda Dilts-Benson, RN, CAM, CORN, HAS-DO, HARM**, a consultant with **Reingruber and Co.** in St. Petersburg, FL.