

Home Health ICD-9/ICD-10 Alert

Reader Questions: Keep Coding Accurate For Recerts

Question: Do our resumes need to be coded as accurately as our admission and recerts? If so, why? Does it affect outcomes and risk adjustment? I was told that they should just be "detailed" coding if we think they might be recerted.

-- Virginia Subscriber

Answer: You are required to be accurate in all your updates to the comprehensive assessment. Even though your ROCs are no longer used for payment (unless they are done in the last five days of the certification period), they will impact outcomes risk adjustment. The ROC acts as the beginning of a new outcome episode and needs to reflect the condition of the patient at that point in time. So the short answer to your question is "yes!" You should be as accurate on ROCs in your coding as with your SOCs and recertifications.