

Chiropractic Coding & Compliance Alert

Documentation: 8 easy ways to keep your claims on track

- Document the specific level of subluxation and areas of manual therapy on every visit.
- Ensure that you report objective, measurable functional improvement on every visit.
- Use functional outcome assessments to further quantify the necessity and progress of the care plan (CMS makes the use of outcome measures mandatory from 2015 under PQRS reporting).
- Your notes should demonstrate functional improvement and a discharge decision when maximum benefit is accrued.
- Chronic conditions such as degeneration and displaced discs (the 722 series) require longer care and therefore should be documented whenever you come across one.
- In keeping with the need for mainstreaming the patient, your plan should also focus on active care and rehabilitation.
- Keep the notes legible: they will defend your work and claim only if the auditor can read them.
- Remember to sign all the patient notes.