

Chiropractic Coding & Compliance Alert

Reader Questions: Understand the Difference Between Date of Initial Treatment and Date of Injury

Question: What is the difference between the "Date of the Initial Treatment" and the "Date of Injury/Onset"?

Minnesota Subscriber

Answer: According to WPS Medicare, the date of the initial treatment is the date when the patient first visited the provider, who then assessed the patient and diagnosed him, started the treatment. In other cases, date of initial treatment may also mean the date when a known patient comes back to the provider after a long time for a sudden flare up of a preexisting condition. The bottom line is, the date when the provider begins treatment for a fresh set of patient complaints, will be your date of initial treatment. The date of injury or onset is the actual date when the patient got the injury.