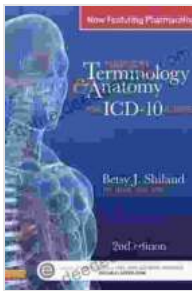


# Medical Terminology Anatomy for ICD-10 Coding: A Comprehensive Guide

Medical terminology is the language of healthcare. It is used to communicate about patients' medical conditions, treatments, and medications. ICD-10 coding is a system of medical codes that is used to classify diseases and injuries. It is used for a variety of purposes, including billing, insurance, and research.



## Medical Terminology & Anatomy for ICD-10 Coding - E-Book by Betsy J. Shiland

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In order to code patient encounters using ICD-10, it is essential to have a good understanding of medical terminology and anatomy. This article will provide a comprehensive guide to these topics.

## Medical Terminology

Medical terminology is a complex and ever-changing field. New terms are constantly being added to the lexicon as new medical discoveries are

made. However, there are some basic principles that can help you to understand medical terminology.

- **Medical terms are often derived from Greek or Latin roots.** This can make them seem daunting at first, but it can also be helpful in understanding their meaning. For example, the term "gastritis" is derived from the Greek words "gaster" (stomach) and "itis" (inflammation). This tells us that gastritis is an inflammation of the stomach.
- **Medical terms are often abbreviated.** This is done to save time and space. For example, the term "CBC" is an abbreviation for "complete blood count." Table 1 below lists common medical abbreviations

Table 1: Common Medical Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
CBC	Complete blood count
ECG	Electrocardiogram
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
CT	Computed tomography
UTI	Urinary tract infection

- **Medical terms are often specific to a particular body system or specialty.** For example, the term "myocardial infarction" is used to describe a heart attack. This term would not be used to describe a stroke, which is a condition that affects the brain.

## Anatomy

Anatomy is the study of the structure of the human body. It is divided into two main branches: gross anatomy and microscopic anatomy.

- **Gross anatomy** is the study of the body's large structures, such as the bones, muscles, and organs. This type of anatomy is often studied using cadavers (dead bodies).
- **Microscopic anatomy** is the study of the body's small structures, such as the cells and tissues. This type of anatomy is often studied using microscopes.

A good understanding of anatomy is essential for coding patient encounters using ICD-10. This is because ICD-10 codes are based on the body's anatomy. For example, the code for a heart attack is I21.0. This code tells us that the heart attack is located in the left ventricle of the heart.

### Using Medical Terminology and Anatomy to Code Patient Encounters

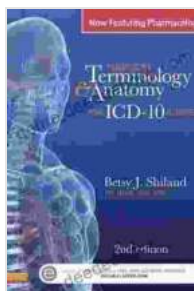
In order to code patient encounters using ICD-10, it is essential to have a good understanding of medical terminology and anatomy. This is because ICD-10 codes are based on the body's anatomy and the medical terms that are used to describe diseases and injuries.

When coding a patient encounter, the first step is to identify the patient's primary diagnosis. This is the main reason why the patient is seeking medical care. Once the primary diagnosis has been identified, the coder must then assign the appropriate ICD-10 code. To do this, the coder must use their knowledge of medical terminology and anatomy to find the code that best describes the patient's condition.

For example, if a patient is diagnosed with a heart attack, the coder would assign the ICD-10 code I21.0. This code tells us that the heart attack is located in the left ventricle of the heart.

In addition to the primary diagnosis, the coder may also need to assign additional ICD-10 codes to describe any other conditions that the patient has. For example, if a patient is diagnosed with a heart attack and diabetes, the coder would assign the ICD-10 code I21.0 for the heart attack and the ICD-10 code E11.9 for the diabetes.

Medical terminology and anatomy are essential for coding patient encounters using ICD-10. By understanding these topics, coders can ensure that they are assigning the correct codes to patient encounters. This will help to ensure that patients receive the correct treatment and that their medical records are accurate.



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