



Advanced Coding Specialist – Cardiology (ACS-CA)

As a service to candidates, this outline is designed to provide representative examples of the coding and billing issues covered on the ACS-CA examination. While it should serve as a guide for your test preparation, you should not consider it inclusive of every procedure or issue addressed within the examination.

Examination Outline

Section One- Cardiology Medical Terms and Abbreviations

Abbreviations, medical terms, and basic coronary anatomy

AMI

JVD

Common terminology and definitions, e.g.

Ejection fraction

Retrograde

Wolf-Parkinson-White Syndrome

Right ventricular hypertrophy

Heart valves and chambers

Coronary electrical system

Catheter movements

Section Two -Evaluation and Management Scenario Coding

1995 and 1997 guidelines (will be provided for reference)

Documentation requirements for the cardiovascular single organ system exam

Consultations vs. referrals

Follow-up consultations

Medical decision making

Critical care (99291, 99292)

Separate procedures

Global days

Section Three -Surgery

Surgical procedures (e.g., pacemaker insertion)

Selective and Non-selective catheterization procedures (36000-36248)

Placement of new ventricular lead, pacemaker

Implantation of a dual-chamber implantable cardioverter-defibrillator

Conversion of a dual chamber pacemaker to a biventricular pacemaker

Selective renal angiography and renal intervention

Section Four -HCPCS Level II

Procedure codes related to Cardiology (e.g., G0290 and G0291)

Section Five - Radiology

Nuclear radiology codes related to Cardiology (e.g., 78460)

"First-pass" codes

SPECT study

Section Six - Laboratory

Panel coding; glucose testing and Protime testing

Coumadin clinic lab tests

Liver functions

Section Seven - Medicine

Cardiology diagnostic testing

Modifier -26 and global service codes

PTCA

Cardiac catheterization

Echocardiograms

EKGs

EP services

Pacemaker analysis

Swan Ganz catheterization

Coronary angiography

Holter monitors

Section Eight - Modifiers

Anatomical modifiers

Stopped procedure

Catheterization in the same session as an intervention

Section Nine - ICD-9 Coding

Levels of physician supervision for diagnostic testing

Claim appeals process, time limit

CCI methodology and Medicare patients

Category III codes

Rhythm related conditions (i.e. bradycardia, A. Fib, etc.)

Hypertension related

Ischemic disease related

Status post conditions