



Advanced Coding Specialist – Emergency Medicine (ACS-ED)

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

Examination Outline

Section One -Emergency Medicine Medical Terms and Abbreviations

Methods of treatment
Diseases and Disorders
Common Emergency Medicine terms

Section Two - Diagnosis (ICD-9) Coding

Chronic disease and infection (e.g. gastroenteritis)
Concussion and coma
Wounds, fractures, overdoses (e.g. third-degree burn)

Section Three - Anatomy

Common fractures (e.g. wrist, ankle)

Section Four - Medicare Coding and Billing

Evaluation and Management services
Emergent vs. non-emergent conditions
Visit level of services
Surgical care only
Denial of payment
HPI documentation and requirements

Section Five - E/M

Fundamentals of Critical Care
Patient counseling and time element (e.g. mental status, clinical condition)
Key components of E/M

Section Six - Scenarios (Procedural CPT Coding)

Physical examinations (history, exam, decision-making)
Work environment stressors (work injuries)
E/D Diagnostics
Pregnancy

History of alcohol and drug abuse
Vehicle accidents
Sudden pain, onset of symptoms
Critical intervention
Lacerations
Excisions
Fracture care