



2009 HCS-D Skill Assessment Questions

These questions represent the variety of subjects and thought-processes that are involved in the HCS-D exam. All of the questions on the certification and re-certification exams are multiple choice, but we include several other options here to truly make you think about what is being asked.

We strongly recommend AT LEAST two years of coding experience to take this exam. If you cannot answer most of these questions correctly, you are not coding to the level of the HCS-D. If you want to test at a more-beginner level, try our ICD-9 Basics exam!

Please refer to our Events page and other areas for more training opportunities!

V codes are **not** to be used when there is a complication, unless the code book gives the instruction to do so.

- a. True
- b. False

2. Diagnoses on the OASIS are listed in the order to best reflect the seriousness of the patient's condition and to justify the disciplines and services provided, not according to the severity ratings.

- a. True
- b. False

3. Code the following scenario: A patient is admitted for aftercare following an ORIF for a hip fracture which resulted from a fall. She had nausea and vomiting post-operatively and became dehydrated. She is receiving IV fluids at home for management of the dehydration, but therapy will provide the most intensive services for gait and transfer training.

Primary and Secondary Diagnosis	M0246 Case-Mix Diagnoses	
	3	4
M0230a		
M0240b		
M0240c		
M0240d		
M0240e		
M0240f		

4. Code the following scenario: A patient has a documented diagnosis of chronic asthmatic bronchitis with acute exacerbation. This is the primary focus of care. The patient also has documented benign hypertension and long-term aspirin use.

Primary and Secondary Diagnosis	M0246 Case-Mix Diagnoses	
	3	4
M0230a		
M0240b		
M0240c		
M0240d		
M0240e		
M0240f		

5. Code the following scenario: A patient was admitted for aftercare following a pathologic vertebral fracture that was caused by metastatic carcinoma of the bone. The patient had ovarian cancer five years ago. The course of treatment was resection and chemotherapy, which were successful in eradicating the ovarian tumor. There have been no symptoms nor need for treatment since.

Primary and Secondary Diagnosis	M0246 Case-Mix Diagnoses	
	3	4
M0230a		
M0240b		
M0240c		
M0240d		
M0240e		
M0240f		

6. Code pneumonia due to MRSA.

7. Code congestive heart failure with pleural effusion.

8. Certain diagnoses are the result of an underlying condition and should never be reported as primary. Known as manifestations, these diagnoses are listed as the first secondary diagnosis, when the focus of care. An example of manifestation coding is:

a. 139.0; 737.43

b. 487.8; 323.41

c. 716.17; 905.6

d. 866.00; 958.5

9. Code the following scenario: A patient is admitted with chronic renal failure with pain and swelling at the peritoneal catheter exit site. The culture of the site reveals a staphylococcus aureus infection which is being treated at home with a 6 week course of IV antibiotics. Nursing is also performing wound care.

a. 996.68; 041.11; 585.9; V58.81; V58.62

b. V58.81; 585.9; 041.12; 998.59; V58.83; V58.62

c. V58.83; 585.9; 041.11; 998.59; V58.81; V58.62

d. 996.68; V58.31; 041.12; 585.9; V58.62

10. V codes may be listed in these specific items(s) on the OASIS form:

a. M0240

b. M0230; M0240

c. M0230; M0246, Column 3

d. M0240; M0246, Column 4

11. The correct diagnosis codes for a diabetic patient, Type 1, uncontrolled with polyneuropathy due to the diabetes, are:

a. 250.03; 354.0

b. 357.2; 250.63

c. 250.61; 354.0

d. 250.63; 357.2

12. Select the correct code sequence for this scenario: A patient has pain and swelling of the lower leg and a skin ulcer with inflammation following a deep vein thrombosis. The physician documents a current DVT and postphlebotic syndrome.

a. 707.10

b. 454.0; 459.13

c. 451.19, 459.13; 707.10

d. 451.19; 707.10

13. Code the following scenario: Patient is admitted for nursing and physical therapy services following a total knee replacement due to osteoarthritis of the knee. Nursing is ordered 2 times a week for 3 weeks for observation and assessment, teaching, PT/INRs for monitoring of anticoagulants, and for removal of staples in 10 days. Physical therapy is ordered 3 times a week for 4 weeks for gait training and therapeutic exercises.

Primary and Secondary Diagnosis	M0246 Case-Mix Diagnoses	
	3	4
M0230a		
M0240b		
M0240c		
M0240d		
M0240e		
M0240f		

14. Which of the following statements about E codes is **true**?

- a. E codes may be used as primary or secondary diagnoses.
- b. E codes require a severity rating.
- c. E codes explain how, where and why an injury or poisoning occurred.
- d. E codes are required for trauma wounds.

15. M0246 is completed whenever a V code is reported in M0230 or M0240.

- a. True
- b. False

Answers

V codes are **not** to be used when there is a complication, unless the code book gives the instruction to do so.

a. **True**

b. False

2. Diagnoses on the OASIS are listed in the order to best reflect the seriousness of the patient's condition and to justify the disciplines and services provided, not according to the severity ratings.

a. **True**

b. False

3. Code the following scenario: A patient is admitted for aftercare following an ORIF for a hip fracture which resulted from a fall. She had nausea and vomiting post-operatively and became dehydrated. She is receiving IV fluids at home for management of the dehydration, but therapy will provide the most intensive services for gait and transfer training.

Primary and Secondary Diagnosis	M0246 Case-Mix Diagnoses	
	3	4
M0230a V54.13	820.8	
M0240b 276.51		
M0240c V58.81		
M0240d		
M0240e		
M0240f		

Abnormality of gait is considered integral to a hip ORIF, so it is not coded.

4. Code the following scenario: A patient has a documented diagnosis of chronic asthmatic bronchitis with acute exacerbation. This is the primary focus of care. The patient also has documented benign hypertension and long-term aspirin use.

Primary and Secondary Diagnosis	M0246 Case-Mix Diagnoses	
	3	4
M0230a 493.22		
M0240b 401.1		
M0240c V58.66		
M0240d		
M0240e		
M0240f		

5. Code the following scenario: A patient is admitted for aftercare following a pathologic vertebral fracture that was caused by metastatic carcinoma of the bone. The patient had ovarian cancer five years ago. The course of treatment was resection and chemotherapy, which were successful in eradicating the ovarian tumor. There have been no symptoms nor need for treatment since.

Primary and Secondary Diagnosis	M0246 Case-Mix Diagnoses	
	3	4
M0230a V54.27	733.13	
M0240b 198.5		
M0240c V10.43	183.0	
M0240d		
M0240e		
M0240f		

6. Code pneumonia due to MRSA.
482.42

7. Code congestive heart failure with pleural effusion.
428.0

8. Certain diagnoses are the result of an underlying condition and should never be reported as primary. Known as manifestations, these diagnoses are listed as the first secondary diagnosis, when the focus of care. An example of manifestation coding is:

a. 139.0; 737.43

b. 487.8; 323.41

c. 716.17; 905.6

d. 866.00; 958.5

9. Code the following scenario: A patient is admitted with chronic renal failure with pain and swelling at the peritoneal catheter exit site. The culture of the site reveals a staphylococcus aureus infection which is being treated at home with a 6 week course of IV antibiotics. Nursing is also performing wound care.

- a. **996.68; 041.11; 585.9; V58.81; V58.62**
- b. V58.81; 585.9; 041.12; 998.59; V58.83; V58.62
- c. V58.83; 585.9; 041.11; 998.59; V58.81; V58.62
- d. 996.68; V58.31; 041.12; 585.9; V58.62

10. V codes may be listed in these specific items(s) on the OASIS form:

- a. M0240
- b. **M0230; M0240**
- c. M0230; M0246, Column 3
- d. M0240; M0246, Column 4

11. The correct diagnosis codes for a diabetic patient, Type 1, uncontrolled with polyneuropathy due to the diabetes, are:

- a. 250.03; 354.0
- b. 357.2; 250.63
- c. 250.61; 354.0
- d. **250.63; 357.2**

12. Select the correct code sequence for this scenario: A patient - has pain-and swelling of the lower leg and a skin ulcer with inflammation following a deep vein thrombosis. The physician documents a current DVT and postphlebotic syndrome.

- a. 707.10
- b. 454.0; 459.13
- c. **451.19, 459.13; 707.10**
- d. 451.19; 707.10

13. Code the following scenario: Patient is admitted for nursing and physical therapy services following a total knee replacement due to osteoarthritis of the knee. Nursing is ordered 2 times a week for 3 weeks for observation and assessment, teaching, PT/INRs for monitoring of anticoagulants, and for removal of staples in 10 days. Physical therapy is ordered 3 times a week for 4 weeks for gait training and therapeutic exercises.

Primary and Secondary Diagnosis	M0246 Case-Mix Diagnoses	
	3	4
M0230a V54.81	715.36	
M0240b V43.65		
M0240c V58.83		
M0240d V58.61		
M0240e V58.32		
M0240f		

Code the joint replacement right after the aftercare. Because the osteoarthritis is in the knee, and the knee has been replaced, it is resolved. 715.36 can only be listed in M0246 because of this. Gait abnormality is considered to be inherent to the lower extremity joint replacement and is, therefore, not coded.

14. Which of the following statements about E codes is **true**?

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- b. E codes require a severity rating.
- c. E codes explain how, where and why an injury or poisoning occurred.**
- d. E codes are required for trauma wounds.

15. M0246 is completed whenever a V code is reported in M0230 or M0240.

- a. True
- b. False**