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About Maxim Health Information Services

Maxim Health Information Services is a division of Maxim Healthcare Services, the largest privately held healthcare staffing company in the nation. As part of a large business enterprise and a [leader in the industry](#), MHIS can help take your career to the next level. Now more than ever, hospitals and medical facilities understand the importance of hiring HIM staff to increase their bottom line. This has opened the door to many new [career opportunities](#) in the health information industry. MHIS staffs positions for on-site coders, remote coders, auditors, and more.

Welcome to the December issue of Maxim Coding CornerSM! As a leader in the HIM industry, [Maxim Health Information Services](#) is committed to providing you with updates on coding-related topics that matter to you. This month, we are focusing on special procedures miscoding. Read on below to learn more.

Special Procedures Miscoding

It is a common perception that Interventional Radiology coding is one of the most difficult and challenging coding areas for hospitals and Physician offices to master. IR coding continues to be an area of substantial liability and compliance risk areas for provider organizations across the country. These types of procedures are also known as "Special Procedures" and are performed in radiology, cardiology, and vascular surgery, as well as general surgery.

Nationally, the overall case error rate for complex Interventional Radiology is above 70 percent. A majority of these errors are due to inappropriate under-coding, which leads to under-reimbursement.

Example Scenario

A procedure is performed by the Physician, and the Radiology Technician (RT) is assisting. After the procedure, the RT enters what was performed into the chargemaster, and it is billed. The case is audited and is showing severe error rates. What might have happened?

1. The RT saw what was performed and charged correctly, but the Physician did not document all that was done, OR
2. The chargemaster was not up to date, and charges were missed or charged incorrectly, OR
3. The charge entry screen did not state exactly what was done, so the "next best thing" was chosen.

Reimbursement Impact

Not only do these types of errors affect compliance, but they can also have a huge impact on reimbursement. On a national average, reimbursement impact is around \$1,300 per case. Quite simply, tackling problems with Interventional Radiology case coding, will likely result in extraordinary reimbursement benefits.

One solution is to hire an outside company, such as Maxim Health Information Services, to conduct a review of the current processes and make suggestions for

workflow changes. Maxim's IR Solutions Program provides review of coding and billing workflow, evaluation of reimbursement impact, and the development of a customized plan to ensure all coding is performed as accurately and compliantly as possible, while assuring all appropriate reimbursement is received.

To learn more about Maxim Health Information Services, visit us [online](#) or call 866-265-0589.