

A few useful links for Studying for the CCS

Compiled by Christina Benjamin, RHIA, CCS, CCS-P

CCS Prep Resources:

1. Articles on commonly assigned DRGs and related guidance from the Coding Clinic on the conditions that group to those DRGs

<http://www.primaris.org/professionals/products.asp?SETTING=Hospital&TOPIC=HMP> (Note: TMF updated a lot of these in 2007 for the MS-DRGs, but they are now gone from the website—email cmbenjamin@bellsouth.net for these.

2. Browse through CMS's webpage and related links discussing the acute care prospective payment system and the outpatient prospective payment system

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AcuteInpatientPPS/>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HospitalOutpatientPPS/>

3. Patient Status Codes/discharge disposition:

http://www.trailblazerhealth.com/Publications/Job%20Aid/ub-92a_discharge.pdf

4. Excellent site with articles with quizzes and cases on various coding issues related to the CCS/CCS-P; The main prep article that is recommended to read first provides a recommended list of resources for further research

<http://health-information.advanceweb.com/HIMStuff/CCSPrep.aspx>

5. Info on the *Coding Clinic* query process.

<http://www.ahacentraloffice.org/ahacentraloffice/html/icd9cm.html>

6. Direct link to a DRG calculator! Enter in the codes from all your inpatient cases in and watch the magic of DRGs!

<http://www.irpsys.com/cgi-bin/webplus.exe?Script=/irpsys/drgcalc.wml>

7. OIG workplan: Knowledge about compliance issues is not complete without an understanding of the OIG and its workplan other related issues. The AHIMA text *Effective Management of Coding Services* also has a great chapter on Compliance issues in coding. Prepare now for Domain 9 of the 2007 CCS multiple choice competencies by familiarizing yourself with compliance issues.

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<http://oig.hhs.gov/publications/workplan.html>

8. HIPAA resource: Familiarize yourself with real-life privacy and confidentiality issues in preparation for the new 2007 CCS multiple choice competencies-- Domain 8.

<http://www.hipaadvisory.com/>

9. IT technology resource: Domain 7 of the multiple choice competencies for the 2007 version of the CCS involves Information and Communication Technologies.

<http://www.cisco.com/univercd/home/home.htm>

10. Check out AHIMA's recent presentation on ED coding also as you will need to make sure that you are abreast of the ICD-9 coding changes related to ED coding. <http://campus.ahima.org/audio/2007/RB100207.pdf> APCs/OPPS: The main thing you need to know is what the items that are required to group/calculate an APC and what items would affect or change them significantly.

<http://www.acep.org/practres.aspx?id=30464>

11. OPSS/APC terminology: Terminology peculiar to APCs--for example instead of a case mix index (like for DRGs), there is a corresponding term "service mix index" for APCs.

http://www.ahd.com/definitions/op_apc.html

Practice Cases/Questions:

1. JustCoding quizzes: Test and develop your knowledge of basic coding principles (For CCS and CCS-P) Keep in mind that there may be mistakes in these

http://justcoding.com/quizlet_archive/

2. Ingenix's Code This scenarios. Sign up for free access to scores of coding cases with answers; a new case is added twice a month; there is an archive of all previous cases.

<http://www.shopingenix.com/modules/nonprod/default.asp?id=2534>

3. Advance's Q&A archive: Go through each one of these and try to answer the question yourself before reading the responses.

<http://health-information.advanceweb.com/common/contenttools/archives.aspx?int=3&CTIID=1469>

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- Michelle Green's archive: To access the other cases besides the first one, for which the link is already listed, go to the web address bar at the top of your browser page and change the number of the case. For example, to access the 4th ASU case, you would use the following weblink:

<http://web.alfredstate.edu/him/records/asucases/asucase004.pdf>

<http://web.alfredstate.edu/him/records/records.htm>

General coding References on the Web:

Online Pathophysiology references

Knowing pathology and disease processes and treatments is crucial for coding and Part I of the CCS exam; this site is Merck Manual online and it specifies pathophysiology, symptoms/signs, treatment and more for a myriad of conditions.

<http://www.merck.com/mrkshared/mmanual/tables/296tb2.jsp>

Anatomy: (there are plenty of sites including Gray's Anatomy)

<http://www.bartleby.com/107/>

<http://mywebpages.comcast.net/wnor/homepage.htm>

<http://www.netterimages.com>

Pharmacology References:

www.pdr.net

www.rxlist.com

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/druginformation.html>

Abbreviation/Acronym website:

<http://www.acronymfinder.com>

Online Medical Dictionary websites:

<http://www.medlineplus.com> (this site is rich with great sources: encyclopedia, medical dictionary, etc.)

and there is an online Dorland's <http://www.dorlands.com/wsearch.jsp>

General Surgery/Procedure references:

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http://www.mercksource.com/pp/us/cns/cns hl_adam.jspzQzpgzEzzSzppdocszSzuszSzcnszSzcontentzSzadamzSzencyzSzarticlezSzurgidxazPzhtm

<http://www.yoursurgery.com>

<http://www.vesalius.com>

<http://www.or-live.com/upcomingBroadcasts.cfm>

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/surgeryvideos.html>

Medical Terminology: Knowing medical terminology is very crucial to medical coding; one can figure out the meaning of a complex procedural term just by breaking down the term into the prefix, suffix, etc and applying the meaning of each; check the full list of prefix's & suffix's.

http://www.mtworld.com/tools_resources/root_words.php?letter=all