Pinpoint the appropriate arthritis & osteoporosis codes

Arthritis Types

Arthropathy – A general term for disease occurring in the joints

Osteoarthritis – The most common form of arthritis, where cartilage wears down allowing the bone to rub against bone and resulting in the formation of bone spurs causing pain, swelling and stiffness. [*also referred to as osteoarthrosis or degenerative joint disease (DJD)*]

Secondary arthritis – arthritis caused by another disease or condition such as obesity

Post-traumatic arthritis – arthritis that develops years after a joint sustained a physical injury such as an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) or meniscus tear

Arthritis Types (cont.)

Rheumatoid arthritis – An autoimmune disorder that causes chronic inflammation, painful swelling and deformity of the joints

Acute gout – An acute attack (i.e. a uric acid spike leading to crystals in joints), causing inflammation and pain.

Chronic gout – Levels of uric acid remain high over a number of years. Attacks become more frequent and joint damage may occur, potentially causing loss of mobility

Pseudogout – Resembles gout but instead of high levels of uric acid crystals, the body forms calcium pyrophosphate dihydrate salt crystals [*also known as chondrocalcinosis*]

ICD-10 Guidelines

Bone versus joint

For certain conditions, the bone may be affected at the upper or lower end, (e.g., avascular necrosis of bone, M87, Osteoporosis, M80, M81). Though the portion of the bone affected may be at the joint, the site designation will be the bone, not the joint.

Section I.C.13.a.1

Site and Laterality

Most of the codes within Chapter 13 have site and laterality designations. The site represents the bone, joint or the muscle involved. For some conditions where more than one bone, joint or muscle is usually involved, such as osteoarthritis, there is a "multiple sites" code available. For categories where no multiple site code is ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting FY 2020Page 58 of 121 provided and more than one bone, joint or muscle is involved, multiple codes should be used to indicate the different sites involved.

Section I.C.13.b