27/05/2020

Dear PHISC members,

<u>COMMUNICATION REGARDING THE CLINICAL CODING OF</u>

<u>NOVEL CORONAVIRUS: COVID-19</u>

<u>COMMUNICATION 4</u>

After reviewing a number of requests related to COVID-19 coding, the PHISC Clinical Coding Sub-committee have proposed that the following ICD-10 codes should be considered for further use in coding COVID-19. Detailed examples will be added to the PHISC Addendum to the SA ICD-10 coding standards and guidelines document as soon as possible:

Please use this communication document in addition to the document published "PHISC – Updated communication 3 for COVID-19 coding (April 2020) as published on the PHISC website.

*Please reference GSN0001 from the South African ICD-10 Morbidity Coding Standards and Guidelines document when selecting the primary diagnosis.

1. **COVID-19 and Maternity:**

    * **PDX:** O98.5   Other viral diseases complicating pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium
    SDX: Relevant COVID-19 code [U07.1 / U07.2 / Z03.8 / Z11.5] as per World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines

    Also consider adding:

    Z35.8   Supervision of other high risk pregnancy

2. **COVID-19 due to exposure in the workplace:**

    Government Notice from Department of Employment and Labour published on 2020/03/20

    Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act, 1993.

    Notice on compensation for occupationally-acquired Novel Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) under compensation of occupational injuries and diseases act, 130 of 1993 as amended stipulates the process to be followed where employee contracted the illness in the workplace.

Different coding scenarios may be applicable to describe where an employee contracted the illness in the workplace.

In principle the coding will be sequenced as follows:

The existing ICD-10 sequencing guidelines contained in the SA ICD-10 Morbidity Coding Standards and Guidelines documents should still be adhered to, hence the coding of U07.1/U07.2/Z11.5 codes can be used in either the primary or secondary position. If work related it would require an external cause code.

> * **PDX/SDX:**   U07.1 / U07.2 / Z03.8 / Z11.5
> **SDX:**   External cause code

The external cause code to be used for occupationally aquired COVID-19:

> X58.-2 Exposure to other specified factors
> 4th character: The relevant place of occurance character
> 5th character: 2 While working for income

3. **Code U07.2 (COVID-19, virus not identified):**

This code is mainly used for the following conditions:

- **Suspected/probable/PUI (Persons Under Investigation):**

    To use until the pathology results are available, following which U07.2 should to be updated to either U07.1 if positive or Z03.8 if negative. Once confirmation has been received U07.2 must be removed.

4. **Code Z11.5 (Special screening examination for other viral diseases)**

This code is mainly used under the following cirumstances:

- "Go back to work" screening tests.
- For pre-booked surgery screening at the testing site
- For screening of unplanned admissions or consultations

5. **Code Z71.1 (Person with feared complaint in whom no diagnosis is made)**

Self referrals and screening for clients where there is no reason to suspect disease and further investigation deemed unnecessary (no symptoms).

6. **A positive and negative COVID-19 test result during the same admission**

During an admission, where a patient initially tests positive and then subsequently tests negative, assign U07.1 (COVID-19, virus identified). This is coded in a similar way to any other disease that was treated and resolved during the same admission.

Kind regards

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