Examples Of Cpc Exam Questions

CPC EXAM SAMPLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The instructions and conventions of the classification take precedence over _____. - ANSWER   Official Coding Guidelines

What month does the new ICD-10-CM codebook take effect each year? - ANSWER October

What is the meaning of provider in the ICD-10-CM guidelines? - ANSWER   The Physician

Who are the parties responsible for providing the ICD-10-CM guidelines? - ANSWER NCHS and CMS

What is an example of an eponym? - ANSWER   Paget's Disease

What is the ICD-10-CM code for nausea? - ANSWER   R11.0

What diagnosis code(s) should be reported for acute and chronic cystitis? - ANSWER N300.00, N30.20

Rationale: ICD-10-CM guideline.I.B.8 states when the same condition is described as both acute and chronic and separate subentries exist, code both and sequence the acute code first.

What is the ICD-10-CM code for strep throat? - ANSWER   J02.0

Rationale: Look in the ICD-10-CM Alphabetic Index for Streptococcus, streptococcal and you are directed to see also condition. Look in the Alphabetic Index for Sore/throat/streptococcal (ulcerative) J02.0. Verify code selection in the Tabular List.

What is the ICD-10-CM code for headache? - ANSWER   R51

What do brackets [] indicate in the ICD-10-CM Alphabetic Index? - ANSWER   Use the code(s) in brackets in addition to the disease or condition to identify an associated manifestation

What is the ICD-10-CM code for chest pain? - ANSWER   R07.9

What is the ICD-10-CM code for keloid scar on the foot? - ANSWER   L91.0

Refer to the Tabular List and identify the code that contains an instructional note that indicates that two related conditions cannot occur together. - ANSWER   N94.2

Examples of CPC Exam Questions

The Certified Professional Coder (CPC) exam is a crucial assessment for individuals seeking to demonstrate their proficiency in coding and billing medical procedures and diagnoses. Conducted by the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC), the CPC exam is designed to test a candidate's knowledge of medical coding systems, guidelines, and regulations. This article will explore various examples of CPC exam questions, shedding light on the structure, types of questions, and the knowledge areas they cover.

Understanding the CPC Exam Structure

The CPC exam consists of 150 multiple-choice questions, and candidates are given a total of five

hours to complete the test. The questions cover a wide range of topics essential for effective medical coding, including but not limited to:

- Medical terminology
- Anatomy and physiology
- Coding guidelines
- CPT coding
- HCPCS Level II coding
- ICD-10-CM coding
- Compliance and regulatory issues

Understanding the exam structure is vital for candidates preparing for their CPC certification.

Types of CPC Exam Questions

CPC exam questions can be categorized into several types, each focusing on different aspects of medical coding. Here are some common question types with examples:

1. Coding Scenarios

These questions present a clinical scenario that requires candidates to apply their coding knowledge to determine the correct code(s). For instance:

Example Question:
A 55-year-old male patient is admitted to the hospital with pneumonia. He has a history of COPD. The physician documents the pneumonia as "exacerbation of COPD with pneumonia." Which ICD-10-CM code(s) should be reported?

Answer Choices:
A) J44.9
B) J10.9
C) J44.0, J18.9
D) J44.1, J18.9

Correct Answer: C) J44.0, J18.9
Explanation: This question requires the candidate to identify the appropriate codes for COPD exacerbation and pneumonia.

2. Code Identification

These questions focus on identifying the correct code for a given procedure or diagnosis from a list of options.

Example Question:
Which of the following is the correct CPT code for a laparoscopic cholecystectomy?

Answer Choices:
A) 47562
B) 47563
C) 48700
D) 42500

Correct Answer: A) 47562
Explanation: Candidates must know the specific codes for common procedures.

3. Coding Guidelines and Conventions

These questions test the candidate's knowledge of coding guidelines, including modifiers, conventions, and rules.

Example Question:
Which modifier would you use to indicate that a procedure was performed on the left side of the body?

Answer Choices:
A) -50
B) -LT
C) -RT
D) -21

Correct Answer: B) -LT
Explanation: This question assesses the candidate's understanding of modifiers used in CPT coding.

4. Compliance and Regulatory Questions

These questions evaluate the candidate's understanding of compliance issues in medical coding and billing.

Example Question:
What does the term "upcoding" refer to in medical billing?

Answer Choices:
A) Coding for a more expensive service than what was provided
B) Billing for unnecessary services
C) Failing to report all services provided
D) Billing for services not rendered

Correct Answer: A) Coding for a more expensive service than what was provided
Explanation: This question tests knowledge of compliance issues related to coding practices.

Sample Questions by Topic

To further illustrate the types of questions candidates may encounter on the CPC exam, here is a breakdown of sample questions by topic.

Medical Terminology

Example Question:
What is the medical term for "inflammation of the liver"?

Answer Choices:
A) Hepatitis
B) Nephritis
C) Gastritis
D) Colitis

Correct Answer: A) Hepatitis
Explanation: This question assesses basic medical terminology knowledge.

Anatomy and Physiology

Example Question:
Which part of the heart is responsible for pumping oxygenated blood to the body?

Answer Choices:
A) Right atrium
B) Left ventricle
C) Right ventricle
D) Left atrium

Correct Answer: B) Left ventricle
Explanation: This question tests the candidate's understanding of anatomy and physiology.

ICD-10-CM Coding

Example Question:
A patient is diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic nephropathy. What is the correct ICD-10-CM code?

Answer Choices:
A) E11.9
B) E11.21
C) E10.21
D) E11.49

Correct Answer: B) E11.21
Explanation: This question evaluates the candidate's ability to code diabetes and its complications.

CPT Coding

Example Question:
What is the CPT code for a complete blood count (CBC)?

Answer Choices:
A) 85025
B) 85027
C) 85044
D) 85060

Correct Answer: A) 85025
Explanation: This question tests knowledge of laboratory procedure coding.

HCPCS Level II Coding

Example Question:
What is the HCPCS Level II code for a wheelchair?

Answer Choices:
A) K0001
B) E0100
C) E0910
D) K0005

Correct Answer: B) E0100
Explanation: This question assesses knowledge of durable medical equipment coding.

Study Tips for CPC Exam Preparation

To effectively prepare for the CPC exam, candidates should consider the following study strategies:

1. Understand the Exam Blueprint: Familiarize yourself with the exam format, content areas, and scoring. The AAPC provides a detailed exam blueprint that outlines the topics covered.

2. Utilize Practice Exams: Take advantage of practice exams to gauge your knowledge and identify areas for improvement. These can also help you become accustomed to the exam's timing and format.

3. Join Study Groups: Collaborating with peers can enhance your learning experience. Study groups offer opportunities to discuss challenging concepts and share resources.

4. Refer to Official Guidelines: Always refer to the latest coding guidelines and manuals, such as the ICD-10-CM, CPT, and HCPCS Level II manuals, to ensure you are using the most current information.

5. Schedule Regular Study Sessions: Consistency is key. Set aside dedicated time each week to study and review coding concepts.

6. Seek Professional Training: Consider enrolling in CPC preparation courses offered by AAPC or other reputable organizations. These courses can provide structured learning and expert guidance.

Conclusion

The CPC exam is a comprehensive assessment that challenges candidates to demonstrate their coding knowledge and skills. By understanding the types of questions, familiarizing oneself with coding guidelines, and employing effective study strategies, candidates can enhance their chances of success. The examples provided in this article illustrate the various topics and question types that may be encountered on the exam, serving as a valuable resource for those preparing for their CPC certification. With diligent preparation and a strong grasp of coding principles, aspiring coders can confidently approach the CPC exam and advance their careers in the healthcare industry.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some common topics covered in CPC exam questions?

Common topics include medical coding guidelines, anatomy and physiology, healthcare reimbursement, and coding for various specialties like surgery, radiology, and pathology.

Can you provide an example of a multiple-choice CPC exam question?

Sure! An example question could be: 'Which code represents a laparoscopic cholecystectomy?' with options ranging from the correct code to distractor codes.

What format do CPC exam questions typically follow?

CPC exam questions typically follow a multiple-choice format, with one correct answer and several distractors, as well as coding scenarios that require the selection of appropriate codes.

How are CPT codes integrated into CPC exam questions?

CPC exam questions often ask candidates to select the correct CPT code based on a clinical scenario, requiring knowledge of code descriptions and guidelines.

Are there any specific coding scenarios used in CPC exam questions?

Yes, coding scenarios may include patient encounters, procedures performed, and diagnoses, requiring candidates to determine the correct codes based on the given information.

What type of resources can help with understanding CPC exam questions?

Resources such as coding textbooks, online practice exams, and CPC exam preparation courses can help candidates familiarize themselves with the types of questions and coding scenarios typically encountered.

How important is time management when answering CPC exam questions?

Time management is crucial, as candidates must answer 150 questions in a set time limit, so practicing with timed quizzes can help improve speed and accuracy.

What is a common mistake to avoid when answering CPC exam questions?

A common mistake is misreading the question or overlooking key details in the scenario, which can lead to selecting the wrong code or answer.

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