ICD-10 Diagnosis Documentation Tips – Plastic Hand Surgery

Infections:
- State first location and type (osteomyelitis right 5<sup>th</sup> metacarpal)
- Indicate organism if known

Arthopathies:
- Describe type / manifestation / location / laterality / specifics
- Example: chronic gout, idiopathic, right wrist, with tophus

Hand specificity:
- Osteoarthrosis of hand ICD-9 one code
- Osteoarthritis of 1<sup>st</sup> CMC joint ICD-10 12 codes
  - Bilateral or unilateral
  - Etiology
    - Primary osteoarthritis
    - Post-traumatic osteoarthritis
    - Other secondary osteoarthritis
  - For all unilateral types - LATERALITY
    - Right, left or unspecified

Fractures:
- Anatomic specificity / displacement / open or closed
- Episode of care:
  - Initial [open/closed]
  - Subsequent [routine healing, delayed, malunion, nonunion]
  - Sequela

Acute Injuries: If known, please document the following:
- Nature of injury [example: MVA car vs pedestrian]
- Place [example: interstate highway]
- Activity [example: talking on cellphone]
- Status [example: while engaged in work activity]
ICD-10 [INPATIENT] Procedural Coding Tips – Plastic Hand Surgery

Characters:
❖ Section – almost always medical/surgical
❖ Body system – should be self evident from your description
❖ Root operation – describes the intent of the procedure
   ➢ Replacement – total or partial joint
   ➢ Detachment – amputation
   ➢ Resection – removal of all of a body part
   ➢ Excision – removal of a portion of a body part
   ➢ Fusion – renders joint immobile
   ➢ Release – same context as carpal tunnel
❖ Body part – describe with anatomic specificity
❖ Approach – open, percutaneous, percutaneous endoscopic, external [closed reduction]
❖ Device
❖ Qualifier - Used typically to add anatomic specificity
   ➢ Example: (partial 3rd ray resection)

Examples of complete documentation:
❖ ORIF distal phalanx right index finger with K wire
❖ Endoscopic carpal tunnel release, left [specificity re: approach]
❖ Swanson arthroplasty R index, middle, ring, and small MCP joints
   ➢ Generates 4 procedure codes, one for each MCP
   ➢ NOTE: always document each component procedure
❖ Luno-capitate Fusion Right with Bone Graft from Ipsilateral Distal Radius
   ➢ Generates 2 codes [fusion and excising bone graft]
❖ Extensor indicus proprius to extensor pollicis longus transfer, right