Alexandria Technical and Community College

MEDS 1634: Introduction to CPT/HCPCS

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 2
Lab Hours/Week: 1
OJT Hours/Week: *

Prerequisites:
This course requires either of these prerequisite categories
1. BIOL 1417 - Human Anatomy & Physiology I
   Or
2. MEDS 1620 - Medical Terminology I (Number of Years Valid: 5)

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

This course introduces Healthcare Common Procedural Coding System (HCPCS) and Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) as a means of communication with third party payers that use codes to describe procedures and services provided to patients in healthcare settings. The focus is on learning the skills needed to accurately describe the patients visit to a third party payer by assigning the proper numeric code. Ambulatory Payment Categories (APC) concepts are also addressed. Prerequisite: BIOL1417 or MEDS1620.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 05/19/2014 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Demonstrate the basic make up of CPT coding nomenclature.
2. Understand basic coding steps.
3. Describe CPT coding guidelines.
4. Understand CPT coding conventions.
5. Apply coding rules to specific scenarios.
6. Understand the HCPCS Level II codes.
7. Apply knowledge of HCPCS Level II Modifiers.
8. Understand CPT Modifiers.
9. Apply knowledge of Evaluation and Management (E/M) coding rules from both a general and specialty setting.
10. Understand coding tools used for evaluating and auditing coding quality.
11. Understand coding and reimbursement reports and databases and how they are used in the healthcare setting.
12. Demonstrate knowledge of critical information to detect fraud and abuse.
D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. The learner will be familiar with inpatient and office/outpatient documentation, basic coding principles, and accurate and ethical coding practices.
2. The learner will demonstrate an understanding of HCPCS Level I CPT and HCPCS Level II as well as some International Classifications of Diseases (ICD-10-CM and PCS.)
3. The learner will demonstrate understanding of medical necessity as it relates to physician and nursing documentation and assigning codes appropriately.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted