



Regulatory and Clinical Research Institute, Inc.
Reimbursement Codes

Reimbursement codes are the numeric and alpha-numeric symbols that translate patient diagnoses and associated procedures described on the medical record to a universal symbol recognized by insurers' computers. These codes also play a role in determining reimbursement. The chart below provides a simplified depiction of code types, the health care setting(s) in which they are used, and associated payment methodology.

Code Type	Governance	Setting(s)	Payment Methodology
ICD-9 ¹ Diagnosis	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outpatient • Inpatient • Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inpatient Prospective Payment System • Outpatient Prospective Payment System • Ambulatory Surgical Center • Resource Based Relative Value Scale
ICD-9 ¹ Procedure	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inpatient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inpatient Prospective Payment System
CPT [®] -4 ²	American Medical Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outpatient • Inpatient • Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outpatient Prospective Payment System • Ambulatory Surgical Center • Resource Based Relative Value Scale
HCPCS ³	HCPCS National Panel: Includes representatives from Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, the Health Insurance Association of America, and CMS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outpatient • Inpatient • Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents material/supply costs

¹ICD-9 = International Classification of Diseases – 9th edition

²CPT-4[®] = Current Procedural Terminology – 4th edition. CPT[®] is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.

³HCPCS = Healthcare Common Procedural Coding System

For more information on reimbursement codes and code applications, contact Monica Schultz, Director of Reimbursement, or visit RCRI's Web site at www.rcri-inc.com and click on "Reimbursement Strategy and Implementation."