



## Radiology Coding Alert

### ICD-10 Update: ICD-10: Make Sure You Have Implemented These Key Hemorrhage, Infarction Reforms

**You needn't confirm right and left side hemorrhage in ACA bleed.**

It is October already, which means you have implemented the ICD-10 updates. One of the key updates for your radiology practice applies to cerebral hemorrhage and infarction. Is your practice current? Find out.

#### Eliminate Laterality in ACA Hemorrhage

An important update in ICD-10 codes was diagnosis coding for nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage from anterior communicating artery.

**Anatomy:** The anterior communicating artery connects the two anterior cerebral arteries across the commencement of the longitudinal fissure in the base of the brain. This artery is a common site for nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage.

**What is new?** Laterality will no longer guide your diagnosis coding for nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage from anterior communicating artery. ICD-10 updates for 2017 have deleted the following codes:

I60.20, Nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage from unspecified anterior communicating artery  
I60.21, Nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage from right anterior communicating artery  
I60.22, Nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage from left anterior communicating artery

**New code:** You now have a new code I60.2 (Nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage from anterior communicating artery) nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage from anterior communicating artery.

**Why the change?** Many physicians find it challenging to document laterality in midline hemorrhages like the one from anterior communicating artery. The ICD-10 reform hence is a welcome change.

Specify Whether Thrombosis or Embolism is Cause in Cerebral Infarction

ICD-10 now has specific codes for infarction due to vaso-occlusive disease. The key to finding the right code is:

- Confirm the vessel which was occluded; and
- Find specific cause for occlusion, i.e. thrombosis or embolism.



You can find more about the ICD-10 changes at: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/ICD10/2017-ICD-10-CM-and-GEMs.html>.