Basic Surgery Interview Question

1.What is surgical Package ? ★★★

In medical coding, a **surgical package** (also called a **global surgical package**) refers to a **collection of services related to a surgical procedure that are bundled together for billing purposes**.
The intent is to cover all aspects of care related to the surgery within a specific period, rather than billing each part of the care separately.

A typical surgical package includes:

1. **Preoperative Visits**: **Appointments before the surgery** for evaluations related to the procedure, usually within a day or two of surgery.
2. **Intraoperative Services**: The actual surgical procedure.
3. **Postoperative Care**: **Follow-up visits** related to the surgery, typically for a designated global period (e.g., 10, 30, or 90 days) depending on the type of surgery. This may include wound checks, managing complications, and general follow-up related to the surgical outcome.

2.What are the service that are inclusive in surgical package ? ★★

■ Evaluation and Management (E/M) service(s) subsequent to the decision for surgery on the day before and/or day of surgery (including history and physical)
■ Local infiltration, metacarpal/metatarsal/digital block or topical anesthesia
■ Immediate postoperative care, including dictating operative notes, talking with the family and other physicians or other qualified health care professionals
■ Writing orders
■ Evaluating the patient in the postanesthesia recovery area
■ Typical postoperative follow-up care

3.What is separate procedure ? ★★

Some procedures in the CPT codebook have a designation of "separate procedure," which indicates that these procedures are usually components of a larger procedure and cannot be charged independently if completed as part of that procedure.

For instance, when a physician undertakes a major surgical procedure, he or she may automatically undertake some minor surgical procedures. If any of these procedures is categorized as a "separate procedure" in the codebook, it should not be charged separately when performed as an adjunct to the major surgery.

If that same "separate procedure" is performed on its own – without any major or considerable surgery – then that procedure can be charged autonomously. These guided policies help resolve the conflicts associated with double billing for procedures that are done as components to a larger operation.

4.What is Unlisted service or procedure ?
Unlisted service or procedure refers to procedures that may be provided and not listed in this edition of the CPT Code Book. Such services should be reported with the appropriate "Unlisted Procedure" code to indicate the service, with a separate identifying "Special Report."

5.What are the services that is not Included in the Surgical Package? ★★
Certain services related to the surgery are not included in the package, such as:

- Additional, **unrelated surgeries** during the global period
- Treatment for **complications that require a return to the operating room.**
- Some diagnostic tests and unrelated services (e.g., separate treatments for conditions unrelated to the surgery)

6.What is NCCI edits ? ★★
NCCI stand for National correct coding initiative. It is a system that helps **ensure correct coding and prevent improper payment** for medicare Part B claims. The NCCI has two type of edits

1. Procedure to procedure (PTP) edits
2. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)

7.What is PTP edits of NCCI ? ★★★
This prevent providers from reporting certain pairs of CPT/HCPCS together - Same patient - Same day.
Each edits has two Column :
Column 1 Primary procedure : Payable
Column 2 Additional proceudre : Denied if you dont put appropriate Modifier.

Condition 1 : Secondary procedure is codable with appropriate modifier
Condition 2 : Secondary procedure is not codable you need to remove it.

Example 1: 43235 is not codable with 43239, you need to delete 43235.
Example 2 : 43239 is codable along with 43251 if polyps is different by appending XU/59 modifier.

8.What is MUE ? ★★★
An MUE for a HCPCS/CPT code is the **maximum units of service (UOS) that a provider would report** under most circumstances for a single beneficiary on a single date of service. Not all HCPCS/CPT codes have an MUE.

9.What are HCPCS level 2 codes and there usage ?
HCPCS Level 2 code are the code for **Drugs, supplies, equipment, non-physician services, and services** not represented in CPT.These are 5 characters, beginning with a letter and followed by 4 numbers.
For example: J7298 is the code for Mirena Intrauterine Contraceptive device (IUD).

10.What are HCPCS level 1 codes and there usage ?
All CPT codes are the part of HCPCS level 1 codes. It includes Procedures and services provided by physicians and other allied healthcare professionals. Example : 43235 is HCPCS Level 1 code.

11.What is global period ? ★★★
Global period is the period in which the the **service that is related to the surgery performed are bundled** like preop visit and follow up service.
The three types of procedures that carry a global surgical package include simple, minor and major procedures.

1. **Simple Procedures (Zero Global Period)**
   ○ There is no preoperative/postoperative period so the **global period is only the day of the procedure.**
   ○ Services are generally simple minor procedures and some endoscopic procedures.
2. **Minor surgical procedures (10-day global period)**
   ○ There is no preoperative period so the **global period starts the day of the procedure.**
   ○ There are 11 days in the global surgical package beginning the day of the procedure and then the 10-days following it.
3. **Major surgical procedures (90-day global period)**
   ○ There is **one day of preoperative care** so the global period starts the day prior to the surgery.
   ○ Care on the day of the surgery is included in the global period unless the decision to perform the surgery was made during the visit on this day. (See modifier -57).
   ○ There are 92 days in the global surgical period **beginning the day before the procedure, the day of the procedure**, and the 90 days following it.

12.What you will code if any procedure is performed first through endoscoppy approach and after that through open approach ?
As per coding guideline, we will not code for the same procedure performed through two different approach we will **code for extensive procedure** that is open procedure.

13.How you will code if the biospy is performed for a lesion and then lesion is completely excised ? ★

As per coding guideline, we will not code for the biopsy and excision for same lesion , we will code more extensive procedure and that is **excision only**.

14.What are scout procedure, give example of scout procedure in Hysterectomy ?
Scout procedure are the procedure that is inclusive on primary procedure and is performed to **ensure the completion of proedure**. For example after hysterectomy , the provider perform cystoscopy to ensure the successful completion of hysterectomy and no any abnormality is found.'

15. What is diagnostic and therapeutic procedure ?
Diagnostic Procdures
Basically, a diagnostic procedure is a **medical test or examination performed** with the aim of identifying the cause of symptoms, detecting diseases, or confirming a diagnosis. These procedures help doctors understand a patient's condition but do not treat it.
Some example are:
Imaging Tests: X-ray, MRI, CT-scan, Ultrasound
Endoscopic Exams: Colonoscopy, Gastroscopy, Bronchoscopy
Laboratory Tests: Blood tests, Urinalysis, Biopsy
Cardiac Tests: ECG (Electrocardiogram), Echocardiography

Therapeutic Procedures
A therapeutic procedure is a **treatment or surgical intervention** performed to manage, alleviate, or eradicate a medical condition. Such procedures can greatly benefit a patient's health.
Examples:
Surgical Procedure: Appendectomy (removal of appendix), Hernia repair
Interventional Procedure: Angioplasty (opening blocked arteries), Blood vessel stenting
Endoscopic Treatment: Polyp removal during colonoscopy, Tumor ablation
Pharmacologic Treatment: Type of Cancer Chemotherapy- chemotherapy-based ray therapy, Cancer medicine

Give your feedback of this notes : https://www.medycoding.com/feedback