Tips to Improve HCC Coding

1. Clean up the patient's problem list and remove diagnoses that are no longer current or that have not been coded to the highest degree of specificity.

2. Avoid using contradictory diagnoses in the same visit such as "hypertension associated with diabetes mellitus" and "diabetes mellitus without complications."

3. For patients with a:
   - BMI of 40 or more, the BMI can be reported as a secondary diagnosis in association with a primary diagnosis for which the BMI has clinical significance.
   - BMI of 35.0-39.9, morbid obesity can be reported if the patient has at least one other diagnosis for which the BMI has clinical significance.
     - A primary diagnosis for which BMI has clinical significance is any primary condition that can be improved if the patient loses weight or lowers their BMI; or worsened if the patient gains weight or increases their BMI. Examples include but are not limited to diabetes mellitus, hypertension, obstructive sleep apnea, and hyperlipidemia.
     - In the physical exam, document with the highest specificity any current observations or findings and ensure that both the weight diagnosis and the patient's BMI appear in the record and link to any weight-related comorbidities.

Diagnosis	ICD-10 Code	HCC Code
BMI 40.0-44.9, adult (HCC)	Z68.41	22
BMI 45.0-49.9, adult (HCC)	Z68.42	22
BMI 50.0-59.9, adult (HCC)	Z68.43	22
BMI 60.0-69.9, adult (HCC)	Z68.44	22
BMI 70.0 and over, adult (HCC)	Z68.45	22

Health Leaders Network Partnership for Population Health