Establishing an ICD-10 Code for Sarcopenia

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WHO WE ARE
The Alliance for Aging Research is the leading non-profit organization dedicated to accelerating the pace of scientific discoveries and their application in order to vastly improve the universal human experience of aging and health.

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About the ICD-10

• ICD stands for the International Classification of Disease
• Used by a variety of individuals and groups
  • Physicians
  • Nurses
  • Other providers
  • Researchers
  • Health information managers and coders
  • HIT workers
  • Policymakers
  • Insurers
  • Patient advocacy organizations
About the ICD-10

• Classifies health problems in many types of records
  • Death certificates
  • Health records
  • Vital statistics

• These records enable the storage and retrieval of diagnostic information for clinical, epidemiological and quality purposes

• Provide the basis for compilation of national mortality and morbidity statistics
Why pursue an ICD-10 Code?

• Sarcopenia is a condition of aging
• Sarcopenia has a significant impact on individuals and health care delivery (How much?)
• Sarcopenia not recognized as a condition (No ICD Code)
Why pursue an ICD-10 code now?

OLDER PEOPLE AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE GLOBAL POPULATION

PROJECTED INCREASE IN GLOBAL POPULATION BETWEEN 2005 and 2030, BY AGE
Symposium Objectives

• Outline why steps have been taken to establish an ICD-10 diagnosis code for sarcopenia
• Highlight what the code will mean to multiple stakeholders (researcher, providers, industry)
• Provide an update on status of code implementation
• Lay out future activities related to diagnosis and treatment
Stephanie Studenski, MD, MPH
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Timeline of ICD-10 Code Request

Proposal developed by AIM working with a professional medical coder March-June 2014

Proposal submitted July 2014
  – Added to agenda for Fall 2014 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meeting

Proposal presented on September 24, 2014
  – Objections were raised and proposal was revised

March 18-19, 2015 next meeting on ICD-10 codes
  – No need to present revised proposal
Status of ICD-10 Code

• New codes are first revealed in the proposed DRG rule for the next fiscal year

• ICD-10 codes are frozen for this coming fiscal year (FY 2016)

• We had requested implementation for FY 2017, which begins October 1, 2016

• April 2016 the proposed DRG rule will come out and we will know if the proposal was approved
AIM’s Next Steps After Approval

• Additional work to further sarcopenia screening and diagnosis
  – Outreach to provider groups to raise awareness of the new code
  – Expand access to sarcopenia screening under Medicare

• Support the establishment of clinical guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of sarcopenia

• Continue to clear the way for new therapeutics (FDA qualification and engagement)
Thank You!

Questions or Comments?