

CDM Advisor

Online access to chargemaster expertise for external review and ongoing maintenance

Continually changing health care regulations make it challenging for health care organization to maintain the charge description master (CDM), especially if there are limited internal CDM resources. CDM Advisor provides a dedicated CDM consultant resource you access via a Web-based tool to help you maintain an accurate, complete and compliant chargemaster.

Get expert guidance for CDM decisions

Once the experienced and credentialed CDM consultant is assigned to your account, they familiarize themselves with your organization, billing system and payor requirements to provide meaningful advice in managing your CDM.

- Manage and review chargemaster additions, deletions or changes quickly and easily through the Web-based CDM application using your internal email system. Your consultant reviews each request thread to: validate descriptions, review Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) and revenue codes and uncover potential compliance issues before changes are implemented
- Submit CDM-related billing inquiries and receive a response through the Web application within two business days
- Utilize two days' supplemental onsite or off-site CDM or charge-capture related consulting services per calendar year, including documentation of consulting service provided

Confirm updates

CDM Advisor consultants periodically compare your current chargemaster to the version maintained within the software to validate updates have been implemented. The integrity check includes:

- Electronic comparison of the CDM activity occurring between each CDM download received to identify variances in individual fields
- Identification and evaluation of new line items for accuracy and completeness of coding
- Review of line item variances with your CDM consultant



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Improve compliance with quarterly analysis and annual review

Each quarter following publication of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Outpatient Prospective Payment System update, your nThrive CDM Advisor consultant analyzes your chargemaster. This quarterly chargemaster analysis identifies potential variances and recommends changes and/or additions. In addition, on an annual basis your CDM consultant reviews all hard-coded items in your CDM so that line item descriptions map to the appropriate CPT® or HCPCS code. CDM Advisor consulting services can:

- Identify coding and compliance variances within the chargemaster and make recommendations
- Identify changes suggested by recent regulatory notices and decide if the chargemaster needs additional charge items to facilitate comprehensive billing
- Identify charges below fee schedule or ambulatory payment classification (APC) payment amount
- Flag line items where the description does not appear to match the assigned code
- Suggest revisions where the description appears incomplete or ambiguous

Access up-to-date regulatory information and guidelines

With CDM Advisor, contracted users have direct access to KnowledgeSource®, a Web-based repository of regulatory information. Through KnowledgeSource, you can:

- Click through from your own chargemaster to coding and compliance information directly applicable to the specific CPT/HCPCS code
- Access databases of CPT/HCPCS codes and associated revenue codes, modifiers, wage-adjusted payment information and relevant national and local coverage documents. There also is a comprehensive database of supplies and devices that can be searched by manufacturer and catalog/product number, and a pharmaceutical database that includes both HCPCS and NDC codes
- Search key documents published by CMS (Medicare Manuals, coverage policies and transmittals), Medicare contractors, the Federal Register and authoritative coding sources

Access additional nThrive Chargemaster Consulting services

The nThrive team includes credentialed experts that offer a broad spectrum of chargemaster and other revenue cycle consulting expertise, delivered with a customized approach to meet the specific objectives and goals of a hospital or health system.



Engage with nThrive

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From patient-to-payment,SM nThrive empowers health care for every one in every community.SM