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Title 22@ Social Security

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Division 7@ Health Planning and Facility Construction

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Chapter 10@ Health Facility Data

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Article 8@ Patient Data Reporting Requirements

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Section 97228@ Definition of Data Element for Inpatients-Principal Procedure and Date

97228 Definition of Data Element for Inpatients-Principal Procedure and Date

For discharges occurring on or after January 1, 2017: The patient's principal procedure is defined as one that was performed for definitive treatment (rather than one performed for diagnostic or exploratory purposes) or was necessary to take care of a complication. If there appear to be two procedures that are principal, then the one most related to the principal diagnosis should be selected as the principal procedure. Procedures shall be coded according to the ICD-10-PCS. If only non-therapeutic procedures were performed, then a non-therapeutic procedure should be reported as the principal procedure, if it was a significant procedure. A significant procedure is one that is surgical in nature, or carries a procedural risk, or carries an anesthetic risk, or is needed for MS-DRG assignment. The date the principal procedure was performed shall be reported in numeric form as follows: the 4-digit year, the 2-digit month, and the 2-digit day. The numeric form for days and months from 1 to 9 must have a zero as the first digit.