



Australian Government

HLTCCD008 Undertake highly complex clinical coding

Release: 2

HLTCCD008 Undertake highly complex clinical coding

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	Release 2 HLTCCD008 Undertake highly complex clinical coding supersedes and is equivalent to Release 1 HLTCCD008 Undertake highly complex clinical coding. Updated: Mapping details and minor corrections.
Release 1	HLTCCD008 Undertake highly complex clinical coding supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTADM007 Complete highly complex clinical coding.

Application

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to complete coding of highly complex patient health care records with an advanced understanding of coding conventions, standards and practices in an extensive case-mix.

This unit applies to clinical coders who take responsibility for their own outputs, as well as mentoring other clinical coders as required. Work may be performed as an individual or as part of a team under limited supervision.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Commonwealth and State/Territory legislation, Australian standards and industry codes of practice.

No occupational licensing, certification or specific legislative requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Note: Units marked with an asterisk* include one or more prerequisite units. Refer to unit of competency for prerequisite requirements.

Unit code	Unit title
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HLTCCD007 *	Undertake moderately complex clinical coding
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Competency Field

Clinical Coding

Unit Sector

Health Administration

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS

Elements describe the essential outcomes

1. Abstract clinical data from highly complex patient health care records.

2. Assign codes relating to highly complex patient health care records.

3. Provide clinical coding expertise in the workplace.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

1.1. Abstract conditions, diseases or procedures from highly complex patient health care records from a range of specialties.

1.2. Interpret and apply the Australian coding standards (ACS) to ensure correct assignment of clinical codes when interpreting information from a highly complex case-mix.

1.3. Identify the principal diagnosis for an admission and any additional diagnoses when applying codes to highly complex cases.

1.4. Identify interventions when coding a highly complex case-mix.

2.1. Assign diagnosis and intervention codes according to current classification indices, standards and conventions.

2.2. Determine sequencing of diagnoses codes according to current classification standards and conventions.

2.3. Assign condition onset flag (COF).

2.4. Determine sequencing of intervention codes according to current classification standards and conventions.

2.5. Use resources to assist in making coding decisions.

2.6. Complete assigning of codes from highly complex patient health care records.

2.7. Review and validate Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) assigned to episode of care.

3.1. Share clinical coding expertise in discussions within the coding unit.

3.2. Provide mentoring support for clinical coders.

3.3. Supervise and select patient health care records for clinical coders according to their ability.

3.4. Conduct research to generate solutions to address clinical coding issues.

3.5. Oversee the submission process for coding queries through jurisdictional or national governance bodies.

Foundation Skills

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

HLTCCD008 Undertake highly complex clinical coding supersedes and is not equivalent to HLTADM007 Complete highly complex clinical coding.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>

Assessment Requirements for HLTCCD008 Undertake highly complex clinical coding

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Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit in the context of the job role, and:

- use current coding manuals and standards to produce coded clinical data from highly complex patient health care records for at least five episodes of care for each of the following:
 - infectious and parasitic diseases
 - neoplasms
 - diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism
 - endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases
 - mental and behavioural disorders
 - diseases of the nervous system
 - diseases of the eye and adnexa
 - diseases of the ear and mastoid process
 - diseases of the circulatory system
 - diseases of the respiratory system
 - diseases of the digestive system
 - diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue
 - diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue
 - diseases of the genitourinary system

- pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium conditions originating in the perinatal period including congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities
- symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings not elsewhere classified
- injury, poisoning and causes of morbidity and mortality
- for each of the above patient records:
 - identify coding issues and address according to organisational policies and procedures
 - identify and use resources to assist with highly complex clinical coding requirements.

Knowledge Evidence

Demonstrated knowledge required to complete the tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit:

- characteristics of a highly complex casemix:
 - multiple conditions with underlying problems and high severity of illness
 - multiple medical and surgical complications, adverse complications or complications arising from surgery
 - multiple injuries or accidents
 - complex or staged surgery
- broad health industry context for clinical coding including the relationship between clinical coding, other classifications and uses of coded data
- definition of a clinical coder and clinical coding, and the purpose of coded data
- current codes of practice and guidelines in relation to clinical coding, including professional ethics
- Australian and relevant State or Territory clinical coding standards, protocols and specialty coding rules
- application of rules and conventions to clinical data for coding
- sequencing protocols for principal and additional diagnoses and interventions
- timeframes within which clinical coding must take place
- classifications and medical vocabulary used in clinical coding
- sources of information relating to changes to clinical coding requirements
- resources used to solve clinical coding problems
- mentoring and supervision techniques applicable to the clinical coding environment
- submission process for coding queries through jurisdictional or national governance bodies.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must be demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions.

Assessment must ensure access to:

- real-life patient health care records or de-identified real patient health care records either electronic or hard copy, that reflect current clinical practice
- highly complex patient health care records to include multiple condition reason for admission with multiple co-morbidities or multiple complications including:
 - multiple condition reason for admission with the need for multiple interventions or ventilation:
 - major trauma.
 - multiple burns
 - mechanical ventilation
 - deliveries with multiple complications
 - preterm babies < 1500g or < 32 weeks
 - head and neck surgery
 - organ transplants
 - gastrointestinal bypass
 - major reconstructive surgery
 - unclear principal diagnosis
 - examples of poor documentation to define appropriate clinical code assignment
 - multiple procedural complications or adverse effects of treatment
 - patient health care records from relevant clinical specialities
- current Australian coding classification, medical dictionary or other equivalent medical resource
- organisational policies and procedures
- National and State or Territory legislation relevant to clinical coding
- modelling of industry operating conditions, including:
 - presence of time constraints for coding activities
 - integration of situations requiring problem solving

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations' requirements for assessors.

Links

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<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>