

Study on International Classification of Disease Coding in Inpatients' Utilization of Physical Therapy

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Objectives: The purposes of this study were to investigate the inpatients' distribution and payment items in physical therapy utilization by International Classification of Disease coding and compare the differences among different levels of health care institutions.

Methods: The information released by National Health Institute was used in this study. The number of diagnosis per patient and the ranking of primary diagnosis were analyzed. Chi-square analysis and one-way ANOVA were used to compare the payment items and average number of treatment sessions for the leading diagnosis (occlusion of cerebral arteries) in different levels of health care institutions. **Results:** The frequency and expenditure of physical therapy utilization were 0.4% and 0.1% of the total amount respectively. The num-

ber of diagnosis was significantly different among the different levels of health care institutions ($p=0.001$), more patients had only one diagnosis in medical centers. The ranking of primary diagnosis was different in different levels of health care institutions, however, occlusion of cerebral arteries was the leading diagnosis for all the levels. The payment items were significantly different among the different levels of health care institutions ($p<0.01$), however, the average of treatment sessions was not ($p>0.05$).

Conclusions: Physical therapy diagnosis, evaluation and documentation are needed to improve the quality of classifying physical therapy utilization in addition to adopting international classification of disease coding. (FJPT 2000;25(6):344-350)

Key words: International Classification of Disease Coding, Physical therapy, Inpatient service