Descriptive Data Element Name: Principal Diagnosis

XSD Data Type: xs: string
Attribute Name: princ_diag
Accepts Null values: No
Required in XSD: Yes
Minimum Constraint: 5
Maximum Constraint: 8
Definition: **Principal Diagnosis:**
         The ICD-10-CM code describing the condition established after study to be chiefly responsible for occasioning the admission of the patient for care.

Definition: **Present on Admission Indicator:**
         Present on admission is defined as present at the time the order for inpatient admission occurs. Conditions that develop during an outpatient encounter, including emergency department, are considered as present on admission. **The POA should be included at the 8th position of the ICD-10-CM code with spaces in between if necessary.**

Comments: The principal diagnosis must:
- Use an ICD-10-CM code without decimal point..
- Enter all three to seven digits codes to the highest level of specificity.

Comments: The Present on Admission Indicator:

- Should be included at the 8th position of the diagnosis code.
- Is based not only on the conditions known at the time of admission, but also include those conditions that were clearly present, but not diagnosed, until after the admission took place.
- Is applied to the principal diagnosis as well as all secondary diagnoses that are reported.
- Applies to the diagnosis codes for claims involving inpatient admissions to general acute-care hospitals or other facilities, as required by law or regulation for public health reporting. State licensed Critical Access Hospitals and Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospitals can us and POA "1" to indicated the exempt status. POAs should be assigned to diagnoses codes including the External Cause Codes according to the ICD-9-CM Official Guideline for Coding and Reporting. No exemptions are made for bed types within acute care medical surgical hospitals.

Edit: A principal diagnosis must be:
- Present
- Valid
- Consistent with sex and age
- Consistent with a valid MSDRG
- **An External Cause code should NOT be entered as the principal diagnosis.**

Edit: Present on Admission Indicator must be:
- Y-Yes (present at the time of inpatient admission)
- N – No (not present at the time of inpatient admission)
- U- Unknown (documentation is insufficient to determine if condition is present at time of inpatient admission)
- W - Clinically Undetermined
- 1 – Unreported/Not used – Exempt from POA reporting
- Required for all diagnosis codes.

UB-04 FL 67

Revision 1