ICD-10-CM/PCS Order Files

The ICD-10-CM/PCS order files contain a unique "order number" for each valid code or header, a flag distinguishing valid codes from headers, and both long and short descriptions combined in a single file so they are easier to find and use. ICD10pcs_order_2012.txt contains ICD-10-PCS (procedure) codes valid for FY2012. ICD10cm_order_2011.txt contains all ICD-10-CM (diagnosis) codes valid for FY2011. Diagnosis codes valid for FY2012 will be posted with the ICD-10-CM FY2012 update on December 1, 2011. An FY2011 diagnosis tabular order file has been posted for use, in response to public comment.

For each ICD-10-CM/PCS code, the order file provides a unique five-digit "order number". The codes are numbered in "tabular order," i.e., the order in which the contents of the code system are displayed in the official document containing the system. This includes "headers," which are not valid codes and are included as a convenience for other uses. The ICD-10-CM/PCS order files will be updated every time the ICD-10-CM/PCS official documents are updated. The order numbers are likely to change with each update.

To determine which of two ICD-10-CM/PCS codes comes first in the official document, look up each code in the order file and find its order number. The code with the lower order comes first if its order number is lower, regardless of the characters used in forming the codes themselves.

The order file can be used to obtain a standard interpretation of a "range of codes" – any expression composed of two codes with a dash between them (for example, C43-C449). To obtain the list of codes contained in a range, look up the order number of the lower code and the order number of the higher code. Only codes whose order number is at least as high as the lower order number and no higher than the higher order number are in the range.For example, ICD-10-CM code C43 has order number 01523 in the 2012 order file, and code C449 has order number 01699 in the same file. The range C43-C449 will contain any code whose order number is greater than or equal to 01523 but less than or equal to 01699. For example, it contains C4A62, whose order number is 01574.

Each line of an order file contains one code. A line is variable length up to a maximum of 387 characters. Fields are the same for the ICD-10-CM (diagnosis) and ICD-10-PCS (procedure) files, as follows:

Position	Length	Contents
1	5	Order number, right justified, zero filled.
6	1	Blank
7	7	ICD-10-CM or ICD-10-PCS code. Dots are not included.
14	1	Blank
15	1	0 if the code is a "header" – not valid for submission on a UB04. 1 if the code is valid for submission on a UB04.
16	1	Blank
17	60	Short description
77	1	Blank
78	Up to 300	Long description