

CHOC and The AAPC

Presented by

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American Academy of
Professional Coders

Certified Hematology and Oncology Coder

Certified Hematology and Oncology Coder (CHOC™) Credential

The Certified Hematology and Oncology Coder (CHOC™) exam was developed by a team of leading hematology and oncology coding professionals. Those coders with sufficient experience and expertise in hematology and oncology coding are encouraged to sit for the CHOC™ exam.



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The CHOC™ examinee will be tested on:

- Ability to read and abstract physician office notes and operative notes to apply correct ICD-9-CM, CPT®, HCPCS Level II and modifier coding assignments
- Evaluation and management (both the 1995 and 1997 Documentation Guidelines)
- Rules and regulations of Medicare billing including (but not limited to) incident to, teaching situations, shared visits, consultations, Local Coverage Determinations (LCD), National Coverage Determinations (NCD) and global surgery
- Coding of surgical procedures performed by hematologists and oncologists and auxiliary staff such as chemotherapy administration, hydration services, therapeutic, prophylactic and diagnostic administration, bone marrow aspiration, bone marrow biopsies, venipuncture, vaccinations, therapeutic phlebotomy, etc.
- Medical terminology
- Anatomy and physiology



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Reviewed by a Hematology and Oncology Steering Committee:

- Kristi Bartkowiak, CPC[®], CHOC
- Cindy Sidoti, CPC[®], CPC-I[®], CHOC
- Robyn Christie, CPC[®], CHOC
- Annalynn Hall, CPC[®], CHOC

Specialty exams aptly measure preparedness for “real-world” coding by being operative/patient-note based. In addition to questions regarding the correct application of ICD-9-CM, CPT[®], HCPCS Level II and modifier coding assignments, examinees will also be tested on specialty-specific coding and regulations.



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Requirements

- Must schedule examination four weeks in advance
- Must have current AAPC membership
- While there is no requirement, we strongly recommend that the candidate has at least two years of experience in the specialty. Please be aware that these are difficult, high-level examinations not meant for individuals with little, limited or no coding experience



Exam Preparation – CHOC™ Online Practicum (Highly Recommended)

The online practicum includes three hours of streaming audio lectures to discuss trade-specific issues affecting hematology and oncology coding and three hours of coding simulation with 75 coding scenarios linked to actual patient notes (matching the format of the actual exam).

- One-hour online audio lecture on procedure coding (CPT®)
- One-hour online audio lecture on diagnosis coding (ICD-9-CM)
- One-hour online audio lecture on general E/M coding
- 75-question online practical exercise coding case studies from medical documentation (question format mimics those on actual exam)

Purchase the Online Practicum

- Practicum Only - \$199.95 ([Members: \\$149.95](#))



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Approved Manuals for Use During Examination

Required References:

- [CPT®](#) Books (AMA standard or professional edition ONLY). No other publisher is allowed
- Your choice of [ICD-9-CM](#)
- Your choice of [HCPCS Level II](#)

Highly Recommended References:

- [E/M Audit Worksheet](#) of your choice
- Both CMS DGs (1995 & 1997)

Optional References:

- One reference of your choice

Note:

Any officially published corrections or errata belonging to required references are also permitted. The AAPC uses only the current calendar year codes on all exams. Second attempt exams occurring in the next calendar year will not be permitted to take the previous year's exam.



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CHIEF COMPLAINT: Recurrent ovarian cancer.

HISTORY OF PRESENT ILLNESS: This is a very delightful 69-year-old white female with a history of metastatic stage IV ovarian cancer dating back to December of 20XX. Currently she has completed a round of systemic chemotherapy for recurrence which was Taxotere and Carboplatin and she seemed to be having a good response. Her last CA125 level was on December 28, 20XX and it was at 7. She received her final cycle of chemotherapy on December 27, 20XX. She underwent a CT scan of the abdomen and pelvis on January 22, 20XX. She is here today for scan results. She denies any nausea, vomiting, increasing abdominal girth, or any vaginal bleeding. She does feel somewhat tired and run down, but states that when she takes her iron pill and supplements with food, she feels better. Her scan results were reviewed and discussed with the patient.



REVIEW OF SYSTEMS

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Neurologic: | Neuropathy in her fingers. |
| Psychiatric: | Negative. |
| Endocrine: | Negative. |
| GU: | Negative. |
| Sexual Function: | Negative. |
| Hematologic: | Negative. |
| Allergy/Immunology: | Negative. |
| Constitutional: | Slight fatigue. |
| Eyes: | Negative. |
| ENT: | Negative. |
| Mouth: | Negative. |
| Cardiovascular: | Negative. |
| Respiratory: | Negative. |
| GI: | Negative. |
| Musculoskeletal: | Negative. |



1. What is the level of history?

A. Problem focused

B. Expanded problem focused**

C. Detailed

D. Comprehensive

