Dear Colleague:

The 2014 Managing Coding and Reimbursement Challenges in Neurosurgery courses continue the American Association of Neurological Surgeons' (AANS') long tradition of providing high quality, reliable and effective practice management education. Our continuing partnership with KarenZupko & Associates, Inc. provides a combination of consultant and physician faculty which continues to be unparalleled in course instruction!

Updated Content & Experienced Faculty

Feedback from pre- and post-course surveys have been incorporated into the 2014 course content to make the focused instruction even more actionable. In addition, many of our AANS physician faculty are CPT and RUC advisors, and key figures in the development, revision, and valuation of CPT codes. Their expertise helps you understand the current coding conventions and allows the faculty to confidently address any concerns and comments you may have.

NEW ICD-10 Transition Content

The anticipated adoption of International Classification of Disease 10 (ICD-10) nomenclature will pose significant challenges to practice coding, billing and reimbursement. Our coding courses incorporate an additional half-day of specific ICD-10 content, tailored to the needs of practicing neurosurgeons.

We also offer special breakout sessions the first evening of the course, one specially tailored for physicians and one for coders and office staff. These specific educational environments ensure that ALL attendees feel comfortable speaking up and asking questions. With these additions, we provide the content that practices need to comfortably transition to ICD-10, while also continuing to provide the updates and ongoing education that annual changes in CPT and payer policy demand.

Adding Value to Your Practice

The AANS Managing Coding and Reimbursement Challenges courses help neurological practices optimize overall reimbursement and reduce claim denials. From bundled services, modifiers, and global service periods to changes in federal and state legislation, keeping up-to-date with coding changes is crucial to maximizing your bottom line while remaining compliant with the ever-changing regulations.

Well-trained coders can easily cover their salary and more by learning the nuances and correct ways to code and appeal. As director and co-director of the AANS coding courses, we can assure you that you will be provided with the most up-to-date information and invaluable tips and tools to make your job easier and to improve your bottom line.

You won’t want to miss this course in 2014!

Course Description

As any physician will attest, no one wants to leave money on the table or be accused of submitting incorrect claims. And yet every year, as neurosurgical practices are faced with the daunting task of understanding the newest coding and billing rules, many fail to educate themselves on the new guidelines. The result: lower revenue potential, increased denials and greater operating/administrative costs for the practice.

Adding to this substantial challenge is the scheduled implementation of ICD-10-CM diagnostic codes. The looming ICD-10 transition, now more than ever it is critical to be knowledgeable about the current coding and billing procedures.

Who Should Attend?

Neurosurgeons, fellows and chief residents, practice managers, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, surgery schedulers, coders, billing office staff and other office staff members.

When neurosurgeons attend with their reimbursement team, this provides the highest return on investment because the entire team hears and takes the same message home to implement change.

Faculty

Joseph S. Cheng, MD, MS, FAANS
AANS Coding Program Director
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee

John Kevin Ratliff, MD, FAANS
AANS Coding Program Co-Director
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Peter D. Angevine, MD, MPH, FAANS
Columbia University Medical Center
New York, New York

R. Patrick Jacob, MD, FAANS
University of Florida Gainesville
Gainesville, Florida

Robert R. Johnson II, MD, FAANS
Michigan Head and Spine Institute
Southfield, Michigan

Alexander M. Mason, MD
Boulder Neurosurgical Associates
Boulder, Colorado

John G. Piper, MD, FAANS
Iowa Clinic Department of Neurosurgery and Spinal Surgery
Des Moines, Iowa

Kim Pollock, RN, MBA, CPC
Chicago, Illinois

Daniel Refai, MD, FAANS
Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia

Teri Romano, RN, MBA, CPC
Chicago, Illinois

Clemens Schirmer, MD, PhD
Geisinger Health System
Danville, Pennsylvania

Scott D. Simon, MD, FAANS
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Virginia

David A. Sun, MD, FAANS
Norton Healthcare
Louisville, Kentucky

Karim R. Swartz, MD, FAANS
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky

Luis Manuel Tumialan, MD, FAANS
Barrow Neurological Institute
Scottsdale, Arizona

“...the notebook becomes my neurosurgery coding manual/reference. I check there first when I have questions. It is the best I’ve received, because AANS & KZA do the best seminars!”
— Rebecca Robins

“I always learn something new even if there has not been many changes in CPT this year. This course always gives me a fresh look at coding and practice management.”
— Becky Huffman, CPC, CEMC, CANPC
Day One:
ICD-10-CM Coding

2:30 - 5:30 p.m. in San Diego, CA
2 - 5 p.m. for all other locations

This portion of the course will focus on:
- ICD-10 Implementation Actions, Tips for Successful Implementation, Timeline for Successful Implementation, and Next Steps
- Structure of ICD-10-CM Codes
- Guidelines for Using ICD-10-CM Codes
- Formatting CMS 1500 Claims with ICD-10-CM Codes
- Specific Neurosurgery Case Examples, Hands-on Coding Using Scenarios from the CPT Course Workbook

Day Two:
CPT Coding

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This portion of the course will focus on:
- Medicare Update 2014: Medicare Payment and Major Changes
- Global Surgical Package and Using Modifiers to Optimize Revenue
- Introduction to Spine Procedure Coding and Scenarios: How to Code Spine Procedures

Day Three:
CPT Coding

8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

This portion of the course will focus on:
- Practice Management Imperatives:
  - Revenue Enhancement Strategies
  - Avoiding Revenue Leaks, Using Technology, Basic Contracting Issues
  - Hospital Employment: Is It for You?
  - Compliance and Audit Strategies
- Craniotomy and Non-Spine Procedure Coding and Scenarios
- Neuroendovascular Procedure Coding and Scenarios
- Compliance in Evaluation and Management Coding and Documentation

Day One Optional Physicians Breakout and Optional Coders and Office Staff Breakout
7 - 9 p.m. (these breakouts are concurrent)

Physicians–Only Breakout: This session is intended for neurosurgeons and will discuss how and why to complete the surveys from the AMA and CMS, along with new devices and how to code for these devices. Preparation for ICD-10 implementation will be discussed.

Coders and Office Staff Breakout: This session is for novice and experienced coders and will focus on the anatomy and terminology related to neurosurgical codes.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this educational activity, participants should be able to:
- Explain the structure of an ICD-10-CM code.
- Apply structure to accurately code multiple case examples.
- Discuss ICD-10-CM coding requirements for traumatic injuries.
- Describe two things you can do to successfully implement ICD-10-CM coding in your practice.
- Describe the global surgical package and how it impacts reimbursement.
- Identify and apply correct CPT codes to commonly performed neurosurgical procedures.
- Discuss and analyze strategies to reduce revenue loss in your practice.
- Identify common compliance issues in E&M coding and documentation.

Important: Attendees should bring a copy of the AMA’s ICD-10-CM 2014 Codebook (2014 edition/year) with them to the course as it will be used in case examples. To purchase the book, please visit the AMA’s online store. Many attendees also find it helpful to bring their CPT books to facilitate hands-on coding of cases.

Course Locations

San Diego, California
February 14-16, 2014
Omni Hotels & Resorts
675 L Street
San Diego, CA 92101
Hotel Phone: 619.231.6664
Room Rates: $199 single/double
Reservation Deadline: January 14, 2014

Nashville, Tennessee
September 11-13, 2014
Renaissance Nashville Hotel
611 Commerce Street
Nashville, TN 37203
Hotel Phone: 615.255.8400
Room Rates: $205 single
Reservation Deadline: August 21, 2014

Washington, D.C.
March 13–15, 2014
Washington Court Hotel
525 New Jersey Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20001
Hotel Phone: 202.628.2100
Room Rates: $209 standard
Reservation Deadline: February 20, 2014

Denver, Colorado
November 13–15, 2014
Ritz Carlton
1881 Curtis Street
Denver, CO 80202
Hotel Phone: 303.312.3800
Room Rates: $219 single
Reservation Deadline: October 14, 2014

Chicago, Illinois
July 24-26, 2014
Hyatt Chicago – Magnificent Mile
633 N St. Clair Street
Chicago, IL 60611
Hotel Phone: 312.787.1234
Room Rates: $199 king/double
Reservation Deadline: June 24, 2014

AANS Annual Scientific Meeting
Coding Practical Clinic
San Francisco, California
April 6, 2014
Practical Clinic:
Neurosurgical 2014 CPT Coding Update with ICD-10

Important: You must register for the Annual Scientific Meeting in addition to registering for the above practical clinic. This course has a separate agenda, separate registration process, and requires a different registration fee from the full courses.
Attendees will receive access to a 30-day free trial to optional Physicians Breakout and Coders Breakout sessions for E&M Documentation, and materials related to the two including answer key, a current Neurosurgeon’s Reference and American Eagle qualifying flights. To take advantage of this discount, please enter the following code(s) under promotion code when booking online at www.aa.com:

- February 14-16, 2014 – Coding in San Diego: 6924AK
- July 24-26, 2014 – Coding in Chicago: 9974AA
- September 11-13, 2014 – Coding in Nashville: 3194AA
- November 13-15, 2014 – Coding in Denver: 38N4AA

A full breakfast and lunch are included in the registration fee on day 2 and day 3 of the course.

Copies of the current Neurosurgeon’s Reference will be available for purchase at a reduced rate. The reference is a comprehensive and up-to-date guide to the medical and surgical management of the patient with a neurosurgical condition. This resource is a must-have for every neurosurgeon and neurosurgical resident.

Additional Course Features
Each attendee will receive a comprehensive course workbook including answer key, a current Neurosurgeon’s Reference for E&M Documentation, and materials related to the two optional Physicians Breakout and Coders Breakout sessions. Attendees will receive access to a 30-day free trial to optional Physicians Breakout and Coders Breakout sessions. Attendees will receive access to a 30-day free trial to optional Physicians Breakout and Coders Breakout sessions. Attendees will receive access to a 30-day free trial to optional Physicians Breakout and Coders Breakout sessions.

CME Credit
The AANS is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The AANS designates this live activity for a maximum of 17.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Hotel Accommodations
Registrants are responsible for making their own hotel reservations. Please identify this AANS course when making your hotel reservations. While a sufficient number of rooms have been set aside at the hotel for course registrants, there are occasions when the room block sells out prior to the cut-off date. Please make your hotel reservations as early as possible. Reservations made after the course registration deadline will be accepted on a space-available basis and may not qualify for discounted rates.

Air Transportation
American Airlines is their official airline carrier. A 5% discount off the lowest applicable fare will be offered when booking your meeting travel at www.aa.com. Discounts apply on American Airlines and American Eagle qualifying flights. To take advantage of this discount, please enter the following code(s) under promotion code when booking online at www.aa.com:
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- July 24-26, 2014 – Coding in Chicago: 9974AA
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AANS has negotiated a 10% national discount off your round trip reservation with SuperShuttle and ExecuCar. The discount code is: AANSU. To use the code simply enter it on the first page of the website when making your reservations at http://www.supershuttle.com/default.aspx?GC=AANSU. For special reservations questions call 800.BLUE.VAN (800.258.3826), available 24/7. Please note that if you call in your reservation instead of booking and paying online with your discount code, then the discount is not valid and a $2 call center fee applies.

Disclosure
Before the program, all faculty members will disclose the existence of any financial interest and/or the relationship they or their significant other might have with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) to be discussed during their presentation.

2014 Registration Fees
For multiple registrations, photocopy this form. Please enclose only one check for multiple registrations.
- AANS Member Physician: $960
- Advanced Practice Provider or Office Staff from AANS Member Physician Office: $960
- Any additional registrants from an AANS Member Physician Office: $845
- Non-member Physician: $1060
- Non-member Advanced Practice Provider or Office Staff from Non-member Physician’s office: $1060
- Any additional registrants from a Non-member Physician office: $945
- Resident/Fellow/Military: $625

Registration Policy
As courses sell out months in advance, please register early. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. All registrants will receive an email confirmation from the AANS within 2 business days of their registration. Should you fail to receive a confirmation within that time, please contact the AANS Division of Education and Meetings at epm@aans.org.

Cancellation/Refund Policy
To view the cancellation and refund policy, please visit www.AANS.org/Coding. The AANS reserves the right to cancel a course. Registrants will be notified by a formal letter of cancellation in the mail. In the event of course cancellation, registration fees are refundable. However, airline and hotel penalties are the responsibility of the registrant.

Americans with Disabilities Act
The AANS wishes to take those steps to ensure that no individual with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated, or otherwise treated differently than other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services. If you require any of the auxiliary aids or services identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act in order to attend any AANS program, please contact the AANS Division of Education and Meetings prior to arrival at epm@aans.org.

Attire Advice
Please dress in layers of clothing to accommodate all temperatures.

Questions
Please contact the AANS Division of Education and Meetings at 888.566.AANS (2267) or email epm@aans.org.