3M™ Long-term acute care hospital DRG products

- Helps long-term care hospitals achieve coding accuracy, quality and compliance under the prospective payment system

- Prompts coders to evaluate the total coding process and identify specific clinical information that may be overlooked, leading to the assignment of the most appropriate Medicare-severity long-term care DRG

- Allows the coder to generate reimbursement calculations in real time, based on the most current Medicare regulations and standards

The 3M advantage

Are your HIM coders equipped with the right tools for accurate and compliant MS-LTC-DRG assignment?

How does your HIM department achieve accuracy and remain compliant with federal guidelines?

Accurate MS-LTC-DRGs provide the foundation for your facility's reimbursement and reflect your case mix complexity. The coder's ability to identify all diagnoses, treatments and procedures documented in the medical record is key to DRG accuracy.

The challenge

In October 2002, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) mandated that long-term acute care hospitals (LTCHs) participate in the Long-term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System (PPS). As a result, LTCHs changed their Medicare reimbursement systems to use a patient classification system called Medicare-Severity Long Term Care Diagnosis Related Groups (MS-LTC-DRGs) to code patient data. MS-LTC-DRGs are based on the principal diagnosis, secondary diagnoses and procedures performed during the stay, as well as on the patient's age, sex and discharge status.

LTCHs must continually focus on correct and compliant coding and grouping, so that reimbursement revenues are not adversely affected and their organizations are not at risk for compliance problems. In addition, LTCHs must update and maintain their systems to remain in sync with the yearly regulatory update issued by CMS in October.

The 3M solution

As optional components of the **3M™ Coding and Reimbursement System,** the 3M Long-term Acute Care Hospital DRG (LTCH-DRG) Software products are designed to provide healthcare organizations with the tools they need to comply with the PPS and accurately code data with MS-LTC-DRGs. Built with 3M Health Information Systems' market-leading coding, grouping and reimbursement technology, these products include:

- **3M™ Long-term Acute Care Hospital (LTCH) DRGfinder™ Software**, which works with the expert logic of the **3M™ Codefinder™ Software**. It provides the current coding and editing guidelines to help the coding professional obtain the correct MS-LTC-DRG code.

- **3M™ LTCH Reimbursement Calculation Software** calculates and displays the expected reimbursement for the designated MS-LTC-DRG code.

- **3M™ LTCH Advanced Analyzer Software** helps the coding professional capture appropriate diagnosis contributions, including often-overlooked complications and comorbidities.

3M™ Long-term acute care hospital DRG products

Expert logic to guide the coder

The 3M LTCH DRG Software products are added to the **3M™ Coding and Reimbursement System,** the industry's leading coding application used by more than 5,000 hospitals worldwide. The 3M products work seamlessly together to perform complete, accurate and compliant coding and grouping of principal and secondary diagnosis and procedure codes.

Using the expert logic built into the 3M coding software products, the **3M™ LTCH DRGfinder™ Software** guides the coder through the coding and editing session, prompting the coder to check the documentation for information relevant to the diagnosis and any complications and comorbidities. The goal of the session is to compute the most accurate and appropriate MS-LTC-DRG.

After the MS-LTC-DRG is computed, the **3M™ LTCH Clinical Analyzer Software** goes a step further in the coding and grouping process. This software incorporates automated clinical checks that help coders evaluate the record for the presence of:

- Associated diagnosis and procedure codes
- Additional information that may affect the MS-LTC-DRG
- Clinical manifestations for often-overlooked complications and comorbidities
- Commonly used drugs prescribed by physicians

The software can even suggest where to look in the record for the documentation of a specific condition (e.g., check the laboratory results, etc.).

Tracking reimbursement: Key to success

Correct coding and the appropriate documentation to support it are absolutely critical to receiving appropriate reimbursement. After the correct MS-LTC-DRG code has been identified, the **3M™ LTCH-DRG Reimbursement Calculation Software** can help an organization track and understand its reimbursement under the PPS. This software calculates the expected reimbursement in real time and transmits the data back to either the organization's billing system or HIS. From there the data can be used to generate reconciliation reports that track expected versus actual reimbursement levels.

Avoid redundant data entry

To reduce redundant data entry, 3M includes an industry-standard interface for demographic data between the host systems and the 3M coding, grouping and reimbursement tools.

Built and maintained by the DRG experts

3M Health Information Systems has more than two decades of experience serving the needs of the healthcare industry with DRG-based software products. The 3M LTCH-DRG Software products can help hospitals master PPS requirements quickly and assist them in achieving compliance.

After the sale, 3M provides quality service and timely updates to support LTCHs as they continue operating under the PPS. Access to the 3M Nosology Team and client support staff is always available by a toll-free telephone number or on the Internet at our customer-only website, **www.3MCustomerCare.com**.

Call today

For more information on how 3M solutions can assist your organization, contact your 3M sales representative, call us toll-free at **800-367-2447**, or visit us online at **www.3m.com/his**.

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