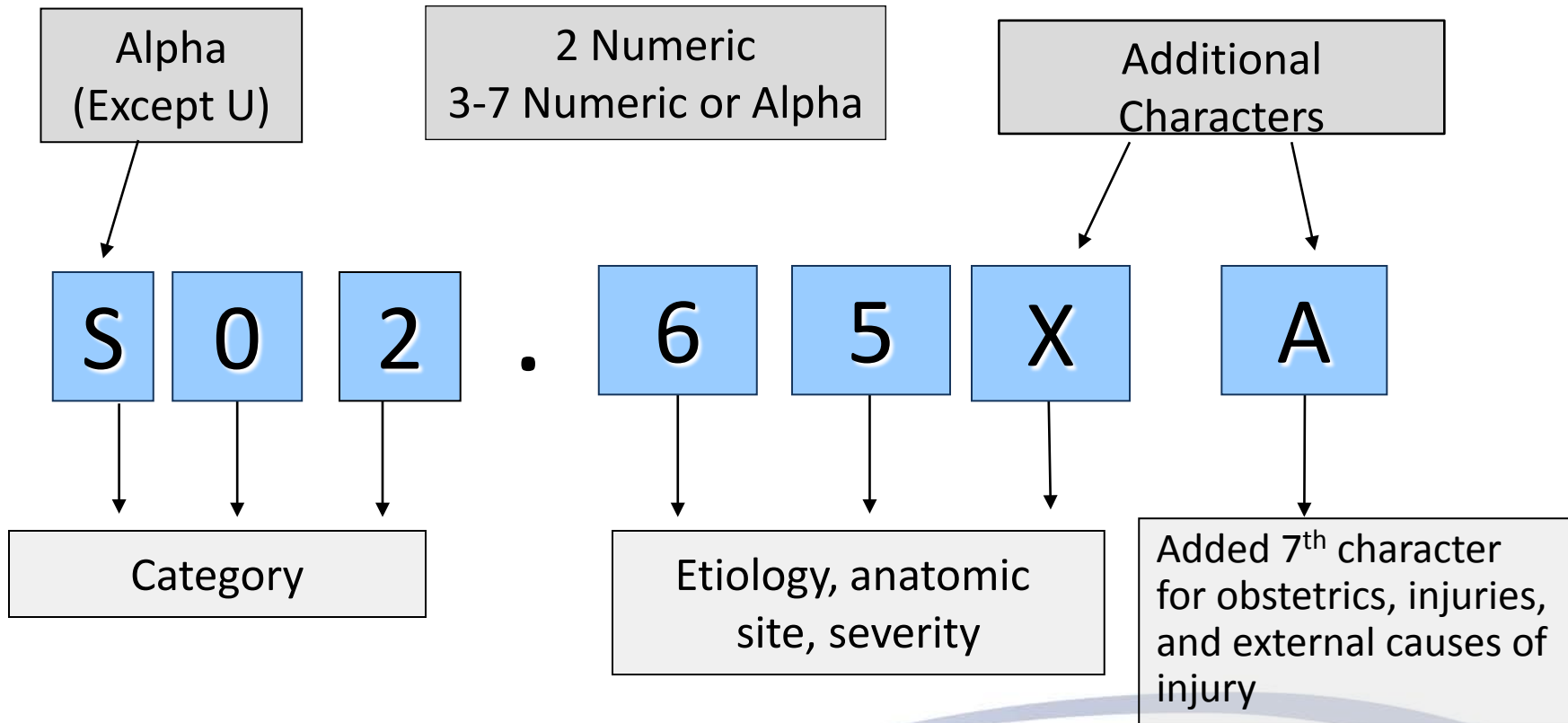# Documentation Specificity

- **Laterality** – Right/left

- **Acuity** – severe, acute, chronic

- **Site** - lobe of lung; upper, mid, lower

- **Manifestations** – link to disease process:

    HTN with CKD

- **Episode of Care:**

    Initial

    Subsequent

    Sequela

ICD-9-CM & ICD-10-CM COMPARISON

ICD-9-CM	ICD-10-CM
Three to five characters	Three to seven characters
First digits is numeric but can be alpha (E or V)	First character is always alpha, (except U is not used)
2-5 are numeric	Character 2 is always numeric: 3-7 can be alpha or numeric
Always at least three digits	Always at least three digits
Decimal Placed after the first three characters (With E codes, placed after the first four characters	Decimal placed after the first three characters
Alpha Characters – not case sensitive	Alpha characters are not case sensitive

ICD-10-CM CODE STRUCTURE

| Alpha (Except U) | | | 2 Numeric 3-7 Numeric or Alpha | | | Additional Characters | |

S 0 2 . 6 5 X A

Category

Etiology, anatomic site, severity

Added 7th character for obstetrics, injuries, and external causes of injury

Place holder X

- Where a placeholder exists, the X must be used in order for the code to be considered a valid code.

- Certain ICD-10-CM categories have applicable 7th characters. The applicable 7th character is required for all codes within the category.

- The 7th character must always be the 7th character in the data field.

- Codes that require a 7th character but no 6th, a placeholder X must be used to fill in the empty 6th place character.
  - Fall down Escalator, initial encounter
    - W100XXA

NEC and NOS

- NEC "Not elsewhere classifiable"
  - Used when no specific code is available to represent the condition

- NOS "Not otherwise specified"
  - Used when there isn't enough documentation to assign a more specific code

Excludes Notes

The ICD-10-CM has two types of excludes notes:

Excludes1

- "NOT CODED HERE" - indicates that the code excluded should **never** be used at the same time as the code above the Excludes1 note.

- Indicates that two conditions **cannot** occur together, such as a congenital form vs an acquired form of the same condition.

Excludes2

- "NOT INCLUDED HERE" – Indicates that a patient may have both conditions at the same time. Indicates it is **acceptable** to **report both** the codes together, when appropriate.

Inclusion Notes

Inclusion notes contain terms that are the condition for which that code number is to be used.

The terms may be:

- Synonyms of the code title, or
- in the case of "other specified" codes, the terms are a list of various conditions assigned to that code.
- The inclusion terms are **not** necessarily exhaustive.

Seventh Characters A, D and S

- A - **initial** encounter:
  - patient is receiving active treatment for the condition

- D - **subsequent** encounter:
  - the patient has received active treatment for the condition and is receiving routine care for the condition during the healing or recovery phase

- S – **sequela**:
  - complications or conditions that arise as a direct result of a condition

Code Also, Code First, Use Additional Code

- A "code also" note instructs that:
  - two codes may be required to fully describe a condition
  - this note does not provide sequencing direction.

- The "code first" and "use additional code" notes provide sequencing order of the codes.

Place of Occurrence and Activity Codes

Regardless of the number of external cause codes assigned on a particular record, there should only be one place of occurrence Code and one activity code assigned to a record.

Y92, Place of occurrence of the external cause,
- Report once, at the initial encounter for treatment with only one code from Y92 category being recorded on the medical record.

Y93, Activity Code
- Report once, at the initial encounter for treatment with only one code from Y93 category being recorded on a medical record.

Diseases of the MSK System

- Chapter 13 (M00.XX to M99.XX) includes:
  - Bone, joint or muscle conditions that are the result of a healed injury (e.g., tenosynovitis of right hand M65.841)
  - Recurrent bone, joint or muscle conditions (e.g., recurrent dislocation of the right shoulder M24.411)
  - Chronic or recurrent conditions (e.g., primary osteoarthritis right ankle M19.071)

Diseases of the MSK System

- Chapter 13 (M00.XX to M99.XX) includes:
  - Pathologic fractures due to:
    - Neoplastic disease (e.g., pathologic fracture rib due to neoplastic disease M84.58XX)
    - Osteoporosis (e.g., osteoporosis with pathologic fracture of vertebra M80.08XX)
    - Other specified disease (e.g., pathologic fracture due to Paget's disease, right humerus M84.621X)

Diseases of the MSK System

- Important to document
  - Primary vs. secondary vs. post-traumatic osteoarthritis
  - Right, left, bilateral conditions
  - For infectious arthritis, identify bacterial agent if known
  - Pathologic fracture *due to* neoplasm vs. osteoporosis vs. other specified

MSK Injuries

- Chapter 19 (S00.XX to S99.XX) includes:
  - Acute injuries to bones and joints
    - Fracture (e.g., displaced fracture of medial condyle of right femur - initial encounter S72.431A)
    - Dislocation (e.g., anterior dislocation of right humerus - initial encounter S43.014A)
    - Sprains (e.g., Right ankle deltoid ligament sprain – subsequent encounter S93.421D)
  - Lacerations, amputations

Guidelines

- *A fracture not indicated as closed or open should be coded to closed*

- *A fracture not indicated as displaced or non-displaced should be coded to displaced*

- *Aftercare Z codes should not be used for aftercare – assign the acute fracture code with the appropriate 7th character*

Fracture Seventh Character

A	• Initial encounter
D	• Subsequent – routine healing
G	• Subsequent – delayed healing
K	• Subsequent – nonunion
P	• Subsequent – malunion
S	• Sequela

Seventh Character – Initial Encounter

The patient is receiving active treatment for the condition

—Surgical treatment

—Emergency department encounter

—Evaluation and treatment
by a new physician

Seventh Character – Subsequent Encounter

After patient received active treatment for the condition and receiving routine care during healing or recovery phase

- —Cast change or removal
- —Removal of external or internal fixation device
- —Medication adjustment
- —Other aftercare and follow-up visits following injury treatment
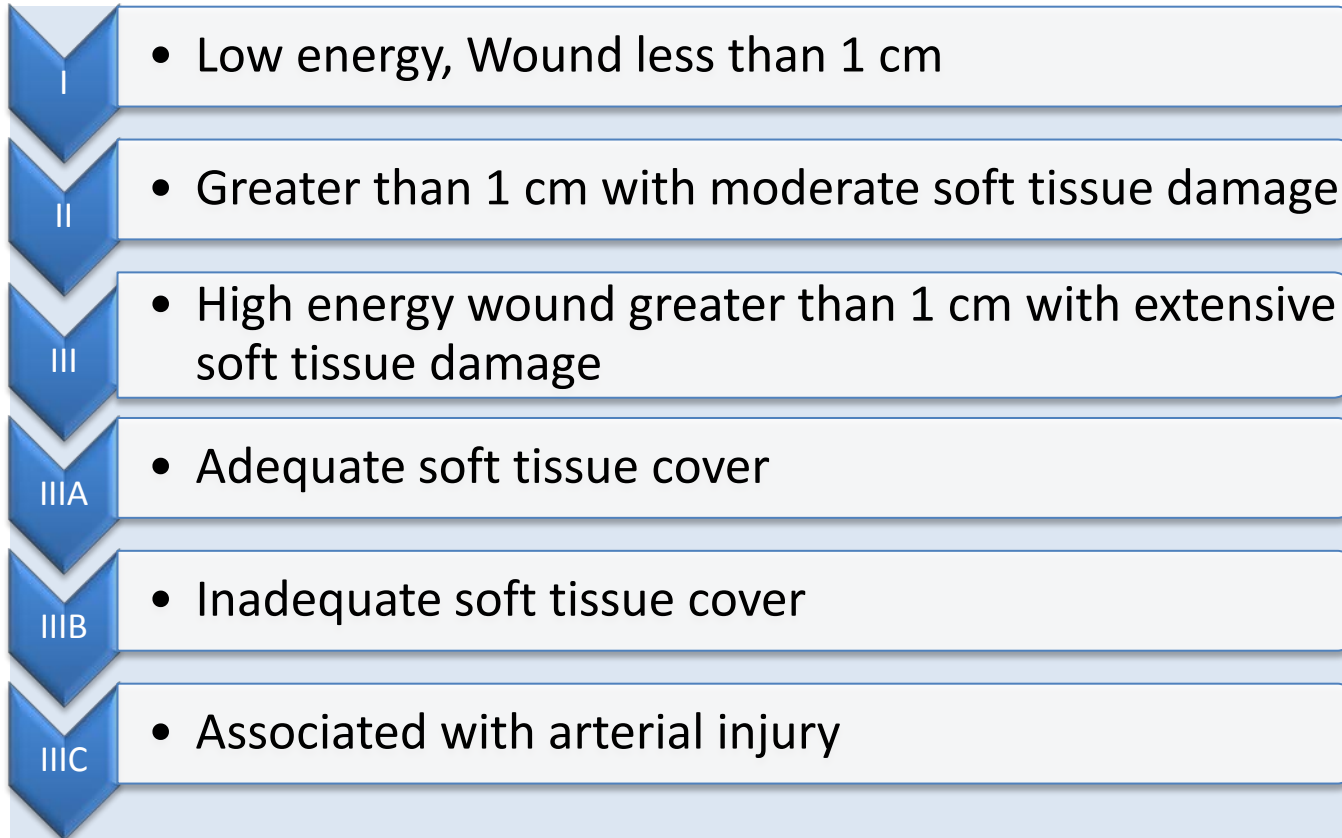
Seventh Character – Sequelae

Complications or conditions that arise as a direct result of a condition, e.g., scar formation after burn

- Use both the injury code that precipitated the sequela and code for sequela

- 7th character "S" added only to injury code, not to sequela code – identifies the injury responsible for the sequela

- Specific type of sequela (like scar) sequenced first, followed by injury code

Additional 7th Characters

Some fracture categories provide for seventh characters to designate the specific type of open fracture based on the Gustilo open fracture classification

Gustilo Classification

I	• Low energy, Wound less than 1 cm
II	• Greater than 1 cm with moderate soft tissue damage
III	• High energy wound greater than 1 cm with extensive soft tissue damage
IIIA	• Adequate soft tissue cover
IIIB	• Inadequate soft tissue cover
IIIC	• Associated with arterial injury

Gustilo Classification – Seventh Characters

B   Initial encounter for open fracture type I or II

C   Initial encounter for open fracture type IIIA, IIIB, or IIIC

E   Subsequent encounter for open fracture type I or II with routine healing

F   Subsequent encounter for open fracture type IIIA, IIIB, or IIIC with routine healing

H   Subsequent encounter for open fracture type I or II with delayed healing

J   Subsequent encounter for open fracture type IIIA, IIIB, or IIIC with delayed healing

Gustilo Classification – Seventh Characters

M   Subsequent encounter for open fracture type I or II with nonunion

N   Subsequent encounter for open fracture type IIIA, IIIB or IIIC with nonunion

Q   Subsequent encounter for open fracture type I or II with malunion

R   Subsequent encounter for open fracture type IIIA, IIIB or IIIC with malunion

MSK Injuries

- Important to document
  - Type of fracture
  - Specific anatomical site
  - Displaced vs non-displaced
  - Laterality
  - Routine vs delayed healing
  - Nonunion
  - Malunion
  - Sequela

Email questions to BHICD-10@bannerhealth.com