

## Consultant Spotlight



**Raquel G., HIM Consultant**

My career in coding started 15 years ago and has proven to be very rewarding and challenging. My natural curiosity about different types of coding has allowed me to work in many different departments. During my career I have coded in outpatient, profee and inpatient, but my favorite specialties are ED, OB-GYN, family and orthopedics. Through my love for coding, I have been fortunate to meet so many great friends and colleagues. It is their knowledge that keeps the job fun and challenging for me. Through them I have also been inspired to mentor other coders when given the opportunity.

My 15-year career would not have been possible without the support from my loving family and Oxford recruiters: Pete Ewas and Nathan Hayes. Words cannot express the appreciation I have for this outstanding pair. They are very hardworking and always have their consultants' best interests in mind. While some might feel that their recruiters are out of touch, I know this is not true for Oxford. I am always kept informed and updated on the newest information in the industry.

Oxford also has provided me with amazing support through Victoria Weinert. Her hard work getting us trained for ICD-10 allowed for the transition to be seamless. I can honestly say that Oxford makes sure that their consultants are prepared for any industry changes. All in all I thank everyone at Oxford for allowing me to be successful in the industry I love!



## Medtronic enables pacemaker monitoring by smartphone

By Mike Miliard, November 20, 2015

**"Remote monitoring of pacemakers and other cardiac devices is now the standard of care"**

The new MyCareLink Smart Monitor from Medtronic, just approved by the FDA, enables patients with implantable pacemakers to use their smartphones to transmit secure data from their pacemakers to their physicians.

The MyCareLink app is available for free on Android and Apple platforms and works in tandem with a physician-prescribed portable device reader. When the monitor is connected to cellular or Wi-Fi service, patients can initiate transmission of pacemaker data, uploading it to Medtronic's secure CareLink remote monitoring network. "Because the MyCareLink Smart Monitor is integrated into existing mobile platforms like smartphones and tablets, it's easy for patients to transmit data from their pacemakers to their doctors via the technology they are using every day," said George Crossley, III, MD, associate professor of medicine and electrophysiologist at Vanderbilt Heart and Vascular Institution, in a statement. "This innovation will serve as the foundation for future advances using smart technology to support cardiac patients," he said.

Patients can also use the app to create a personalized profile on the MyCareLink Connect website to manage their pacemaker information and data transmissions, confirm the date of their most recent transmission of pacemaker information and receive email or text reminders, confirmations and notifications of their data transmissions. The system reduces the time to receive treatment, if the physician detects a problem with the pacemaker based on the transmitted data,

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## Ask the Expert

### Alternative Uses for Applying the Drainage Root Operation

By Victoria Weinert, Compliance and Audit Manager

It's easy to determine the proper application for the drainage root operation in common uses such as thoracentesis, arthrocentesis, and paracentesis. It's clearly applicable to the definition to "let out fluids from a body part." But what about the more unusual procedures we need to apply this root operation? Here are some examples of not-so-common scenarios:

#### **Fine-Needle Aspiration (FNA) aka Fine-needle aspiration biopsy (FNAB) or Fine-needle aspiration cytology (FNAC):**

Typically, core needle biopsies and surgical biopsies are coded to the root operation *Excision*. In these procedures, tissue is removed for study. However, in an FNA procedure, the needle extracts cells for further microscopic study. Removal of cells for study - rather than a piece of tissue-is the key to applying *Drainage* in the next scenarios below. In the following examples, fluid is instilled for the retrieval of cells. This is the method of the procedure and not to be interpreted as the fluid getting "drained."

#### **Bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL):**

Historically referred to as "liquid biopsy," it is a method for the retrieval of cellular and non-cellular components from the lower respiratory tract (e.g., alveoli). During flexible bronchoscopy, saline is introduced to the terminal bronchioles and then recollected for analysis to examine cells, inhaled particles, infectious organisms or fluid constituents.

#### **Abdominopelvic Washing for cytology:**

This is the collection of abdominopelvic (peritoneal) washings (or lavage) and/or

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## Employee of the Month

December 2015



**Kelly A., Sales Coordinator**

I graduated from Chico State University with a degree in Communication Studies and a minor in Journalism Public Relations. After graduation, I moved to the Bay Area where I worked for an IT Recruiting Company as an Account Manager. After that position, I worked for Facebook as a Recruiting Programs Coordinator, and there discovered how much I enjoyed working "behind the scenes."

When I moved to San Diego in January of 2015, I found Oxford HIM and was hired as a Sales Coordinator. Since starting with Oxford, I can honestly say I have loved every minute of it. My position allows me to pursue my passion of "behind the scenes" work, and the people, management, and daily puzzles associated with my role keeps me entertained. As we head into the new year, I look forward to what 2016 brings!

### Ask the Expert (Continued from page 1)

related fluid specimens (e.g., cul-de-sac or gutter aspirates) occurs at the time of abdominal surgery, preceding exploratory laparotomy or removal of the primary tumor. [NOTE: Use your judgment to code this when it is performed as a definitive procedure rather than irrigation at the end of surgery.]

#### Reference:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3709516/>

<http://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/breast-cancer-biopsy>

[http://www.olympus-europa.com/medical/en/medical\\_systems/applications/pulmonology/diagnostic\\_bronchoscopy/bronchoscopic\\_alveolar\\_lavage\\_bal/bronchoscopic\\_alveolar\\_lavage\\_bal.html](http://www.olympus-europa.com/medical/en/medical_systems/applications/pulmonology/diagnostic_bronchoscopy/bronchoscopic_alveolar_lavage_bal/bronchoscopic_alveolar_lavage_bal.html)

### Main Article (Continued from page 1)

less time spent at a doctor's office or clinic for regular checks of the pacemaker and, ideally, increased survival rates and decreased lengths of stay if a physician is able to more quickly treat a medical problem, Medtronic officials say.

In 2014, we wrote about a promising study that relays data from implantable cardiac devices into personal health records. Fort Wayne, Indiana-based Parkview Physicians Group piloted the project, which connected 20 patients with ICDs with a NoMoreClipboard personal health record that could receive device data directly. The common stereotype is that older patients are "not connected people," said Mirro. "That's bull. Some of the assumptions about the over-65 age group and their connectivity are not true. With some minor training, they're very engaged."

Indeed, "the use of smart technology continues to grow among people of all ages and especially among people over 65, which is the age range of the majority of our pacemaker patients," added Darrell Johnson, vice president and general manager of the Connected Care business in the Cardiac and Vascular Group at Medtronic, in a statement announcing the MyCareLink network. "Remote monitoring of pacemakers and other cardiac devices is now the standard of care, as studies have established how it benefits patients - including faster diagnoses and increased survival - as well as how it helps physicians manage their pacemaker patients through increased efficiency and convenience," said Crossley.

#### Reference:

<http://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/medtronic-enables-pacemaker-monitoring-smartphone>

## News & Events

### New Oxford HIM PTO Benefit

Oxford HIM now offers full-time consultants the opportunity to take paid time off! The new PTO benefit comes in addition to holiday pay, 401(k) and medical insurance packages, paid travel and other benefits we provide.

If you have any questions, please contact your recruiter or email [HIM@oxfordcorp.com](mailto:HIM@oxfordcorp.com).

### Refer a Colleague to Oxford HIM

Increase your cash flow by referring other HIM professionals to Oxford HIM!

You can earn **\$500** for every qualified contract or direct hire candidate. The bonus will be paid to you after the referred contract employee has worked 120 hours or the direct hire employee has completed 90 days.

Please ask your recruiter for more details, or email referrals to [lauren\\_pease@oxfordcorp.com](mailto:lauren_pease@oxfordcorp.com).



# Set the Record Straight

December 2015



## Who Knows?

This condition of pressure on the heart occurs when blood or fluid builds up in the space between the heart muscle (myocardium) and the outer covering sac of the heart (pericardium).

Send your answers to:

[Lauren.Pease@oxfordcorp.com](mailto:Lauren.Pease@oxfordcorp.com)

All correct answers will be put into a raffle for a chance to win a \$25 gift card from Oxford HIM

## Last Edition's 'Who Knows' Winner

And the winner is... Kenneth R.!!!!  
Answer: Bromhidrosis

## Hot Jobs

- ◇ Onsite CDI Specialist—West Coast
- ◇ Onsite CDI Manager—West Coast
- ◇ Remote Inpatient Coder—Multiple Locations
- ◇ Remote Outpatient Coder—Multiple Locations
- ◇ Remote Profee Coder

Email

[Lauren.Pease@oxfordcorp.com](mailto:Lauren.Pease@oxfordcorp.com)

today to learn more about these opportunities or refer a friend!



"You'll be impressed with the creative use of space. It's a 200-square-foot condo with 9 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, and an indoor swimming pool!"