

AUDITING & COMPLIANCE TIP

This week the audit tip is the last in the ER Encounter Breakdown Series. So far, we have evaluated the History, the Exam, and the MDM and scored each component. It is now time to score the note as a whole based not only on documentation of the encounter, but also on medical necessity.

The tricky part of this encounter (that was purposefully planted) was that when the patient presented to the ER, his stated problem seemed to be high severity/risk with not only visual disturbances, but also chest pain. However, as the encounter progressed, we noted that the date of service was actually New Year's Day and it appeared that our patient maybe had a little too much partying the night before.

As you think about this encounter for assessing the Medical Necessity (MN), keep in mind NOT ONLY the presenting problem of the patient and NOT ONLY the MDM. The MN takes into consideration the entire encounter.

You are encouraged to assign the LOS on documentation and the LOS based on MN prior to opening the PDF for the analysis. Once you have reviewed, feel free to share comments and feedback on the forum thread, Weekly Tips.

To view the PDF document of the analysis of the encounter, click the icon here.



Miss a week and need the entire encounter analysis? No worries, we have you covered! Click the icon below for the full encounter.