



NAMAS Weekly Auditing & Compliance Tips

November 11, 2016

Medical Cloning in EHRs

When an entry in the medical record is worded similar to or exactly as previous records, or when parts of the medical record are exactly the same from patient to patient, this is called Medical Cloning. When this occurs, the documentation does not meet the requirements of medical necessity due to the lack of specific and individual information.

[Click Here to Listen to This Week's Audit Tip](#)



Electronic Health Records (EHR's) have many functions that can be very beneficial to providers, when used properly. One of the functions used in EHRs is a "copy and paste" function. This allows past notes or a portion of past notes to be used in the current visit. This can become a problem when the physician is copying a section from a previous note and is not paying close attention to what he or she is copying. This can result in copying and pasting information that is not current, such as copying a patient's complaint from a previous visit that has resolved and is not active, copying medications that are no longer current, or copying the patients vitals. When this happens it can affect the safety of the patient and could cause a delay in diagnosis.

There are certain parts of previous encounters that can be copied and used during a current visit. Past histories, chronic conditions, allergies and medications can be copied, but if they are not confirmed as correct by the patient this could result in false information and could



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continue to be copied wrong at each visit. This could cause big problems. If a patient is being seen and the medications are copied without checking to see if any new medications need to be added, or which medications are no longer current, could cause the physician to prescribe a medication that may have potential harmful side effects when taken with a medication they do not have updated.

While cloning can be obvious, in some cases it can also be harder to catch. Medical cloning from patient to patient is something that is easier to miss if not careful. An example of this is when a patient with a chief complaint of a "cough" and a patient with a chief complaint of "knee pain" have the exact same Review of Systems. These are most often because of the use of Macros or Templates that are inserted without editing, which can contain things that were not asked or done during the visit. If you notice a comprehensive exam is done at every patient encounter and is worded the same, this could be the result in medical cloning and can result in upcoding. This could also be an example of over documenting. Over documenting is when inserting false documents or documents that are irrelevant to the encounter is used so it can support billing a higher level of service.

These functions are overused by providers because of their ease and quickness. Without proper education, these functions can cause more harm than good to both the patients and providers. Simply reviewing items that have been copied or templates that have been used can reduce the risks associated with using these functions.

This Week's Audit Tip Written By:

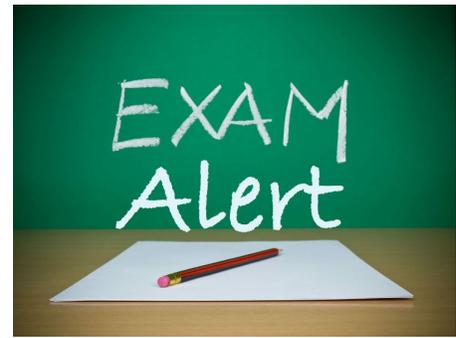
McKenzie Harrison, CPMA

McKenzie is an Auditing Specialist for our parent organization, DoctorsManagement



8TH ANNUAL
Auditing & Compliance
CONFERENCE 2016

**There's Still Time to Register for the NAMAS
8th Annual Auditing & Compliance
Conference in Orlando, FL !**



Take the CPMA Exam During Our Annual Conference

Great news! NAMAS will be offering our **Medical Auditing BootCamp** December 5-6 during our annual conference. We will also be hosting the **AAPC CPMA Exam** on Wednesday, December 7 from 7:00am - 12:45pm at the Loews Portofino Bay Hotel

Package rates will be offered for those interested in attending the Medical Auditing BootCamp in addition to our 8th Annual Auditing & Compliance Conference. Email namas@namas.co for details.

To register to take the CPMA exam, click the image above and use the following index number to register:
CCTN1-E10038



Our onsite or online training program will not only prepare you to sit for the medical auditing certification test, but will prepare you for a career as a medical auditor.

As a bootcamp attendee, you will receive the NAMAS Auditor's Resource & Prep Guide, 16 AAPC CEUs, AND a 1 year NAMAS membership!



December 6-9, 2016 | Orlando, FL | Loews Portofino Bay Hotel

Dates: Pre-Conference: Tuesday, December 6, 2016
Conference: Wednesday, December 7- Friday
December 9, 2016

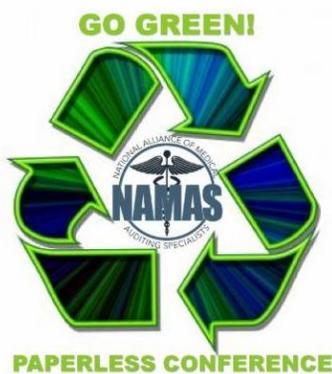
Venue: Loews Portofino Bay Hotel, Orlando, FL

Attend the ONLY conference designed for medical auditors and compliance professionals!

- **Earn Over 20 AAPC CEUs good toward Core A, CPMA, CPCO & CEMC certifications**
- Select your conference sessions from a variety of concentrated tracks, including:
Physician-Based Auditing, E&M Auditing, Facility Auditing and Physician-Based Compliance!
- Learn from the best speakers in the business, network with your peers and our group of exhibitors

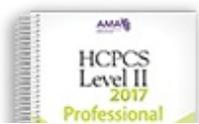
Our 8th Annual Conference Has Gone Green!

We're proud to be a paperless conference, offering attendees the opportunity to download their session handouts electronically prior to conference



Special Conference Offer- Ends 11/25/2016

Register for conference between now and November 25, 2016 and receive your 2017 coding books for FREE!*



Our next **onsite** bootcamp will be:

December 5-6: Orlando, FL

We've also added additional **online** Saturday classes to our calendar

Click Here to Learn More About The NAMAS Medical Auditing BootCamp

NAMAS E/M Auditing BootCamp



For those with a basic foundation of E&M auditing, or experienced E&M auditors just looking for a refresher, our 1-day E&M Auditing BootCamp is for you!

MDM? Medical Necessity? Guidelines? Audit Policies? We'll cover all of this AND more in this training program

Attend our next onsite session:

November 17, 2016: Columbus, OH

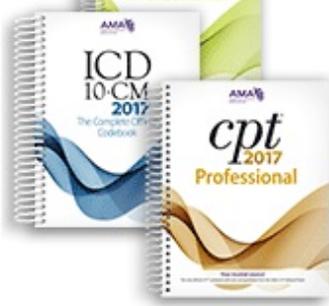
Click Here to Learn More About The NAMAS E&M Auditing BootCamp

Weekly Tip Sponsor



Ohana Healthcare LLC

Ohana Healthcare offers education in the



[Click Here to View the Conference Agenda](#)

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*Offer applies to new conference registrations made between 10/27/16 - 11/25/16. Register for the NAMAS 8th Annual Auditing & Compliance Conference and receive the following AMA manuals for free: 2017 CPT professional, 2017 ICD-10 CM, and 2017 HCPCS Level II. Code book offer may not be combined with any other conference special pricing offer. Offer subject to change or be withdrawn without notice.

NAMAS Conference Speaker Spotlight

Speaker Spotlight

Meet our speakers for the



NAMAS 8th Annual

**Gene Good, JD,
CPA, MAcc**

Partner & Director of
Consulting Services,
DoctorsManagement LLC

Conference Sessions:

areas of healthcare billing, coding, compliance and practice management.

Visit Ohana during the NAMAS 8th Annual Auditing & Compliance Conference December 7-9, 2016 in Orlando, FL

NAMAS Calendar of Events



Click the image above to view our monthly calendar

Upcoming Webinars

NAMAS is proud to present the following webinars in November



E&M Encounter Review

Speaker: Aimee Wilcox

November 15, 2016

2pm EST

The 2016 OIG Target List Update

Speaker: Robert Liles

November 22, 2016

2pm EST

NAMAS Members: Watch your Email for Registration Links

Non-Members: Email namas@namas.co to learn how to attend these webinars

Auditing & Compliance
Conference
Orlando, FL | December 6-9, 2016

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UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER CONTEST



We're excited to announce that during our annual conference, NAMAS will be hosting its first annual **Ugly Holiday Sweater Contest!**

During our exhibitor reception (on the evening of Wednesday, December 7th), all attendees are welcome to don their ugliest holiday attire. Our group of exhibitors and speakers will serve as judges and **the attendee with the ugliest attire will win a scholarship to attend our 2017 conference for free!**

Start preparing your ugly holiday outfit now!

Complimentary Tip of the Week

Our weekly auditing & compliance tip emails are available to anyone who could benefit from this information.

If you know someone who would like to receive these emails, invite them to sign.

Click the image above to be added to our email list!

Too Many Audits Stacking Up?



Let our team help with the backlog & keep you current!

DoctorsManagement & NAMAS employ Senior Management Auditors with no less than 10 years of experience. Our team can perform your audits or offer hands-on assistance to your auditing team.

We are available to assist with:

- Valuation Audits
- Pre-Bill Audits
- Retrospective Audits
- Customized Training

To schedule your audit or training, contact NAMAS at 877-418-5564 or via email at namas@namas.co

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