Hospital Medical Coding

Medical Coding is one of the three functions (the others are Claims Review and Medical Records) of the Health Information Services Department.

Evelyn Bean is a Medical Coder. Her job is to assign the correct health industry codes to data in the patient's medical record. Bean codes for emergency room visits, ambulance transports, and outpatient laboratory and radiology tests.

Separate codes apply to the doctor's diagnosis and the procedures that are performed. The codes give the hospital's medical billers the information they need to successfully process a claim for reimbursement by the patient's insurance company.

In addition to the awareness of thousands of different 7-digit medical codes, Bean also is well-versed in medical terminology and human anatomy.

Evelyn Bean
Medical Coder

Evelyn Bean joined the hospital in 2015, just in time for the United States' adoption, one year later, of the ICD-10 international medical coding system. Users call up 68,000 diagnostic codes and 87,000 medical procedure codes. She took the challenge in stride. "The system is the best program I have used. The transition turned out to be easier than people thought," she said.

Bean brought 25 years of preparation in the medical field. The first 13 years, in a two-doctor Ardmore clinic, gave her experience in business office management, coding, billing, and even nurse assisting. That was followed by a dozen years at the Madill hospital acquiring more medical terminology as a transcriptionist who converts voice-recorded reports dictated by physicians into text for a medical record or discharge planning.