

purpose computer system. The computer system used will typically have a central processing unit, dynamic memory, static memory, mass storage, a command input mechanism (such as a keyboard), a display mechanism (such as a monitor), and an output device (such as a printer). Variations of such a computer system could be used as well. The computer system could be a personal computer, a minicomputer, a mainframe or otherwise. The computer system will typically run an operating system and a program capable of performing the method of the invention. The database will typically be stored on mass storage (such as a hard disk, CD-ROM, worm drive or otherwise). The method of the invention may be implemented in a variety of programming languages such as COBOL, RPG, C, FORTRAN, PASCAL or any other suitable programming language. The computer system may be part of a local area network and/or part of a wide area network.

It is to be understood that the above-described embodiments are merely illustrative of numerous and varied other embodiments which may constitute applications of the principles of the invention. Such other embodiments may be readily devised by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit or scope of this invention and it is our intent that they be deemed within the scope of our invention.

We claim:

1. A method for generating a medical provider profile using a general purpose computer system wherein said system comprising:

a central processing unit,
dynamic memory,
static memory,
a display device,
an input device,
an output device

a mass storage device which contains
a number of historical medical provider patient billing records identifiable as patient records,
a grouping of diagnosis codes,
a grouping of qualifying circumstance codes,
a grouping of staging indicators,
a grouping of preventive codes,
a grouping of complication codes,

said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) selecting a diagnosis code,
- (b) reading a plurality of patient records from the mass storage device into the dynamic memory, each of said patient records having said selected diagnosis code and all of said patient records read corresponding to a single patient,
- (c) comparing each of said read patient records with each qualifying circumstance code in the grouping of qualifying circumstance codes,
- (d) re-sorting each of said patient records having a qualifying circumstance,
- (e) reading a staging indicator corresponding to said selected diagnosis code into dynamic memory, and thereby obtaining a clear window time period based on said staging indicator,
- (f) creating a grouping of said selected diagnosis code with each code in the grouping of related diagnoses codes which correspond to said selected diagnosis code thereby creating a grouping of related codes,
- (g) searching said plurality of read patient records for the record containing the earliest date on which said

selected diagnosis code occurs and noting said date as a first occurrence date,

- (h) for each read patient record corresponding to a code in said grouping of related codes, rejecting said read patient record if a comparison of each of said read patient records with said staging indicator and said first occurrence date shows that for any read patient record, the date of a read patient record predates said first occurrence date by a period of time that exceeds said clear window,
 - (i) for each read patient record corresponding to a code in said grouping of related codes, rejecting said read patient record if a comparison of each of said read patient record with said staging indicator and said first occurrence date shows that for any read patient record, the date of a read patient record postdates said first occurrence date by a period of time that exceeds said clear window time period,
 - (j) for each read patient record not rejected in steps (a) through (i) above, rejecting said record if said selected diagnosis code does not appear on at least two separate dates on said record,
 - (k) for each read patient record not rejected in steps (a) through (j) above, writing said record into a parameter table to create a profile for said selected diagnosis.
2. A system for establishing medical provider profiles, the system comprising:
- (a) means for receiving a quantity of historical medical provider patient billing records identifiable as patient records,
 - (b) a grouping of diagnosis codes,
 - (c) a grouping of qualifying circumstances,
 - (d) a grouping of staging indicators,
 - (e) a grouping of preventive codes,
 - (f) a grouping of complication codes,
 - (g) means for selecting a diagnosis code,
 - (h) means for organizing a grouping of patient records, each of said organized patient records having a selected diagnosis code and all of said organized patient records corresponding to a single patient,
 - (i) means for comparing each of said organized patient records with each qualifying circumstance,
 - (j) means for rejecting each of said patient records having a qualifying circumstance,
 - (k) means for reading a staging indicator corresponding to said selected diagnosis code into dynamic memory, and thereby obtaining a clear window time period based on said staging indicator,
 - (l) means for creating a grouping of said selected diagnosis code with each code in a grouping of qualifying circumstance codes which corresponds to said selected diagnosis code thereby creating a grouping of related codes,
 - (m) means for searching said plurality of read patient records for the record containing the earliest date on which said selected diagnosis code occurs and noting said date as a first occurrence date,
 - (n) for each read patient record corresponding to a code in said grouping of related codes, means for rejecting said read patient record if a comparison of each of said read patient records with said staging indicator and said first occurrence date shows that for any read patient record, the date of a read patient record predates said first occurrence date by a period of time that exceeds said clear window time period,