

JENNIFER ISHMAEL, RHIT
Support Specialist, Data Integrity and Compliance

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Jennifer offers the clients of The Rybar Group a range of expertise in the areas of professional and facility coding, auditing and education, process improvement, as well as project management. As a member of our Data Integrity and Compliance team, Jennifer has worked with multiple specialties, ranging from primary care to diagnostic radiology, and several additional specialties in between, as well as with various hospital outpatient departments.

Jennifer's accomplishments include:

- Performed audits, focusing on the identification of compliance related issues as well as potential reimbursement opportunities. Focused audits in the areas of:
 - Computer Assisted Coding (CAC) for accuracy and appropriate parameter set-up to ensure coding was captured appropriately based on applicable guidelines.
 - Outpatient facility services including Diagnostic Services (Labs and X-Rays), procedures, and Emergency Department leveling.
 - Professional Evaluation and Management (E/M) Services, Infusion Services, and Cardiac Procedures.
- Work on audits and reports as the Independent Review Organization (IRO) for providers under Corporate Integrity Agreements (CIA), initiated by the OIG.
- Review of production coding work to help ensure quality and consistency for our clients who are utilizing outsourced options to eliminate backlog coding work.
- Assessment of policies and procedures for validity, accuracy, efficiency, and compliance with any applicable rules and/or regulations.
- Active member of a work group centered on the preparation and successful implementation of ICD-10 coding.
- Development of clinical documentation prompting templates based on the level of increased specificity necessary for ICD-10-CM.
- Creation of a user friendly and comprehensive audit tool for an Inpatient Psychiatric Medical Necessity audit based not only on the service type but also on the individual payer.
- Assistance in the development of a Health Information Management (HIM) staffing assessment tool, designed to accommodate facilities of any size or type.

In addition, Jennifer has worked with a variety of EMR systems, including EPIC, CPSI, and Meditech.

Jennifer received her Associates in Health Information Technology from Baker College, and holds her RHIT. She is currently working on her Bachelors of Health Information Management through the University of Cincinnati, with plans to sit for the RHIA in the near future. She is an active member of the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) as well as with the Michigan chapter (MHIMA).
