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DIAGNOSIS CODING TIP OF THE WEEK:

There are some new ICD9-CM codes for 2009 and the next few coding tips will highlight these. For example, the code for a fever (780.6) now requires a fifth digit; the additional digit will cover a broader range of temperature regulation disturbances. If the fifth digit is:

- (0) fever, unspecified
- (1) fever presenting with conditions classified elsewhere-code underlying condition first
- (2) postprocedural fever
- (3) postvaccination fever
- (4) chills (without fever)
- (5) hypothermia not associated with low temperature (environmental)