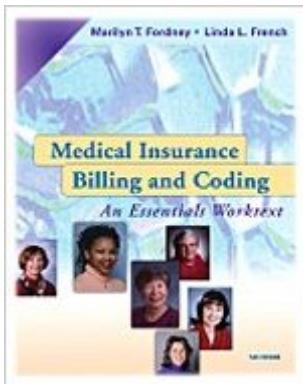


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# Medical Insurance Billing And Coding: An Essentials Worktext (Book & CD-ROM)



## **Synopsis**

Winner of the Text and Academic Authors Association's 2003 Textbook Excellence Award! This completely new full-color worktext presents all aspects of submitting, tracing, appealing, and transmitting claims for today's full range of health plans. Distilled from the comprehensive textbook, Fordney's Insurance Handbook for the Medical Office, this essentials text features a streamlined approach to key topics - including documentation in a medical office, Example boxes, colorful illustrations, and an appendix that uses color-coded payer icons to teach readers how to complete the HCFA-1500 form. Self-study workbook sections and practice exercises incorporated throughout the book make it easy to learn diagnostic coding, procedural coding, office and insurance collection strategies, Medicare considerations, and more. A companion CD-ROM and website offer additional practice and interactive learning opportunities! Combined text and workbook format keeps the content self-contained and easy to manage. Full-color format allows readers to identify colors and icons with individual payers, helping them to easily follow and learn specific payer rules and procedures. An appendix of block-by-block coverage, with full-color examples of the HCFA-1500 insurance claim form, facilitates understanding and effective learning. Photographs, quotes, and short biographies of real insurance billing specialists appear in each chapter, offering real-world perspectives on insurance billing. A separate chapter on documentation in the medical office is devoted to this critical topic. Exercise sections within the text encourage readers to stop and recall or apply what they've learned to help master key concepts.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

Marilyn Takahashi Fordney, CMA-AC, CMT, Formerly, Instructor of Medical Insurance, Medical Terminology, Medical Machine Transcription, and Medical Office Procedures, Ventura College, Ventura, CA; and Linda L French, CMA-C, NCICS, Business Consultant and Instructor of Medical Insurance Procedures and Medical Terminology, Simi Valley Adult School and Career Institute, Simi Valley, CA; Ventura College, Ventura, CA; Oxnard College, Oxnard, CA

the book didn't serve me any purpose at all. Did not get to use the book effectively.

The CD was broken and I can't follow the directions in the book to learn correctly!

### GOOD TO LEARN

this is an excellent book to have if your going to be a medical specialist and that is what I am studying for. I am so happy I bought this book.

First let me say, I spent 8 months in vocational school, scored a 90% on my certification exam, and now teach medical insurance billing for a living. My school requires that I use Fordney's textbook, so I use it. But I heavily supplement it with McGraw-Hill's "Medical Insurance" textbook, which is one of the best textbooks I have ever read. Fordney's textbook contains some major errors, has no Introductory chapter, has a lousy glossary, and makes an already difficult subject even more confusing. I understand this subject pretty well, but I'm confused after reading her textbook! Here are some examples of what I mean: (1) Fordney says there are 17 different types of medical insurance. In reality, most of these can be put into one of four categories: individual, group, managed care, and government programs. Some of Fordney's "categories" aren't even insurance programs! (2) Fordney says an "emancipated minor" can be a college student. Now, an emancipated minor is someone who is under 18 years old, and can make decisions about their own medical care and pay their own way. Most college students are over 18, and rely on their parents for funding, at least the first few years. A 17-year-old college student who pays her or his own way is the rare exception, not the rule. (3) Fordney says people have to sign-up for Medicare benefits, and that the time of year for signing-up is important. In reality, most people are automatically enrolled in

Medicare Part A within 3 months of their 65th birthday. People who are totally disabled before their 65th birthday have to enroll, but this is usually handled by their physician or attorney for the disability case. People who have worked less than 10 years, or have not had Social Security benefits drawn from their paychecks, may have to enroll. And some nonresident aliens may have to enroll. But again, these are the rare exceptions, not the rule. Basically, Fordney gets the sign-up rules for Medicare Part B confused with Medicare Part A, and makes no distinction between Parts A and B, when in practicality they are **Totally Different**. Most notably, enrollment in Medicare Part A is automatic, paid for by the Social Security Act, and only covers hospital and some home care (e.g. Hospice). Medicare Part B is by choice only, has to be paid for individually every month, and covers office visits, some preventive care, and basically what most individual health insurance policies cover. (4) Fordney thinks there is a Medicare Part C. The trouble is, neither of the two major Medicare websites ([...] and [...]) know about it! Okay, it doesn't actually exist: Fordney made it up. Technically there is a Medicare Part D, the new prescription drug benefit introduced in late 2004, and that goes into effect in Jan. 2006. But both Medicare websites include this under Medicare Part B. I'm embarrassed that Marilyn Fordney and I have the same credential...

I have been teaching Insurance Billing and Coding for over 5 years and have used this text to teach my Insurance Billing and Coding classes over the past two years. I believe that this text is very thorough. While there are a few small guidelines that are not accurate, it definitely exceeds other texts in accuracy. Another reviewer stated that this text discusses Medicare Part C and he/she said that it didn't exist. It does exist and is discussed at length, both in the text and on the CMS website. The only negative thing that I would say about it is that it doesn't cover coding as well as I would have liked. I generally have to use another text to supplement this text in order to enable my students to practice coding skills with more precision.

This was my first time ordering from and I was completely satisfied with the text book, delivery time and especially the price. I will always check with before paying full price for any more material at the college book store. Thank you so much for the professionalism.

Item was easy to find and I got the book at a fraction of the cost. It came in about a week in good condition. I can't complain. I will order more text books like this.

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