

Policies of the University of North Texas Health Science Center	Chapter 14 – UNT Health
I. <b>14.524 Electronic Health Record Code Selection and Prompt Functions</b>	

II.

**Policy Statement**

All UNT Health Science Center providers will ensure that the selection of a Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code for services provided is based on medical necessity as supported by documentation in the medical record and will not rely on code selection prompted by the electronic health record (EHR).

**Application of Policy** UNTHSC Providers

**Definitions**

1. Current Procedural Terminology code: “CPT” code is a descriptive, numerical sequencing of medical nomenclature that is used for administrative management purposes such as claims processing. The CPT codes provide a uniform language that will accurately describe medical, surgical and diagnostic services.
2. Code Prompt: A code prompt is a tool within an EHR system that notifies the documenting provider of the level of E/M service documented as well as identifying other elements that could be documented to increase the level of service.

**Procedures and Responsibilities**

1. All services shall be coded based on medical necessity as supported by the documentation in the medical record.

**I. Responsible Party: UNTHSC providers**

1. The level of service determination for Evaluation and Management visits (such as new patient office visits, established patient office visits, initial inpatient services, subsequent inpatient services) is based on medical necessity rather than the volume of documentation. The EHR selection of a CPT code must be supported by the medical necessity based on documentation of the three key components: history, exam and medical decision making.

Responsible Party: UNTHSC Providers

2. UNTHSC providers must not allow any Coding Prompt implemented through the EHR to explicitly or implicitly direct them to add documentation for purposes of increasing the code level.

Responsible Party: UNTHSC Providers

3. UNTHSC providers will verify, or if required, edit the Code Prompt CPT code based on medical necessity before submitting the CPT code for billing.

Responsible Party: UNTHSC Providers

### **References and Cross-references**

### **Forms and Tools**

Approved: August 30, 2012

Effective: August 30, 2012

Revised: