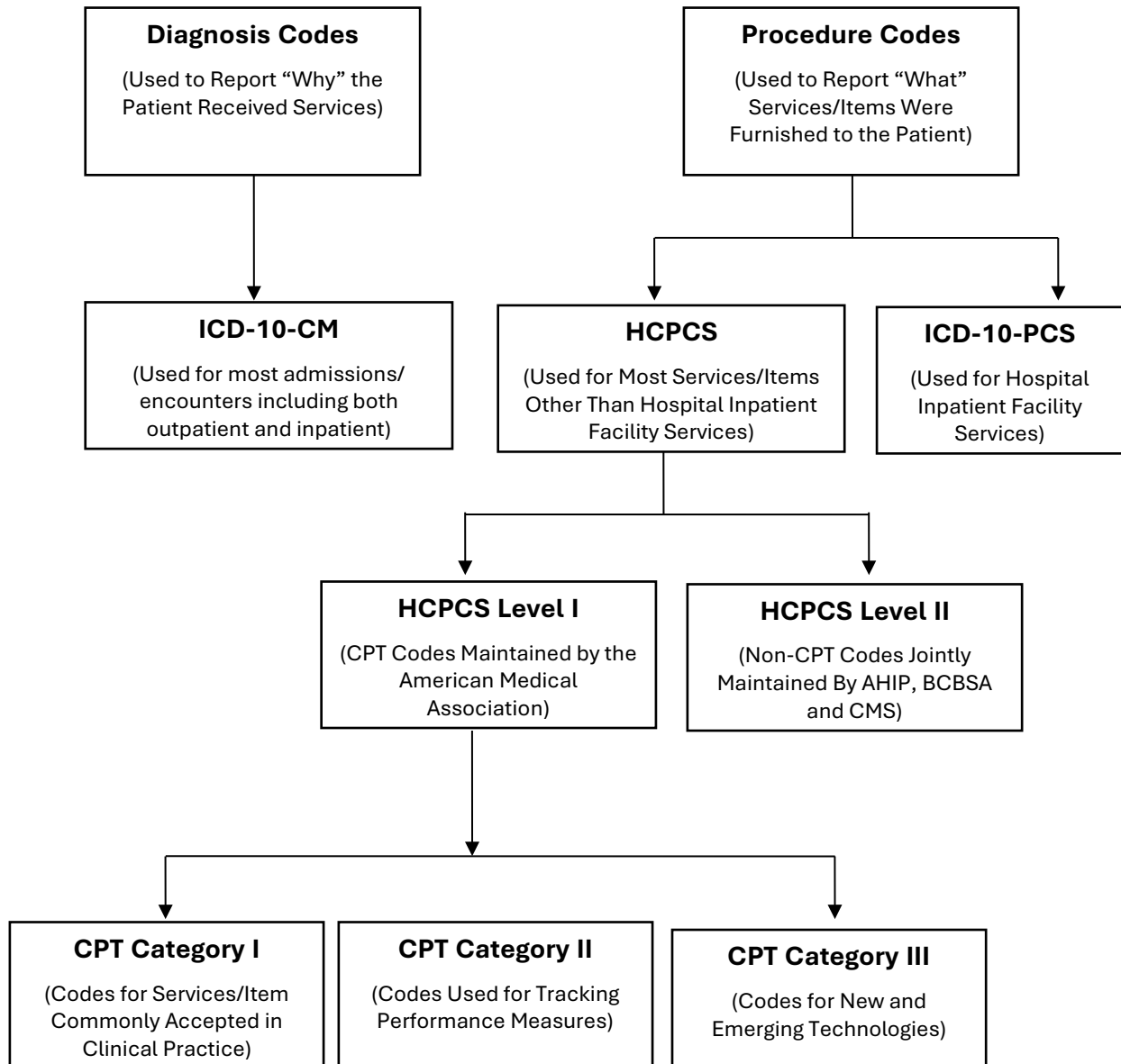




Medicare Hospital Version

Overview of the Medical Coding System used in the United States



HANDOUT 6

Format of Medical Codes used in the United States

Diagnosis Codes	
ICD-10-CM (Inpatient and Outpatient)	Character 1: alpha Character 2: numeric Character 3: alpha/numeric (characters 1-3 represent the category, similar to ICD-9) Characters 4-7: optional alpha/numeric (may include “X” placeholder)
Procedure/Supply/Drug Codes	
ICD-10-PCS (Inpatient)	Character 1: Section Character 2: Body System Character 3: Root Operation Character 4: Body Part Character 5: Approach Character 6: Device Character 7: Qualifier All characters are alpha/numeric, letters O and I are not used to avoid confusion with numerals 0 and 1.
CPT Category I (Outpatient)	#####
CPT Category II (Outpatient, for tracking performance measures)	####F
CPT Category III (Outpatient, for emerging technology)	####T
HCPCS Level II (Outpatient)	[A-V]#### where [A-V] is a single alphabetic character between “A” and “V” inclusive

Note: “#” indicates a numeric character.