## Acute Conditions at Ambulatory Visits: Deep Vein Thrombosis

### Overview:
- There is lack of consensus in clinical and coding guidelines on when to classify deep venous thromboses (DVT) as acute or chronic.
- Coders must rely on the clinician’s judgement and documentation for proper diagnosis code assignment.

### Acute DVT (I82.6 or I82.4)
- Should be coded when it is felt that the blood clot or fibrosis of clot is present.
- Is often diagnosed within the first 3-6 months.

### Chronic DVT (I82.7 or I82.5)
- Should be coded when it is felt that the blood clot or fibrosis is present.
- Is often diagnosed after the first 3-6 months.

### History of DVT (Z86.718)
- Should be coded when it is felt that the clot or fibrosis is no longer present.

### Pearl:
The use of and duration of anticoagulation does not help distinguish between acute, chronic or history of DVT.

- A patient may have contraindication or decline anticoag therapy.
- A patient may be on lifelong anticoag due to history of DVT to prevent recurrence.