

SOMEONE HAS TOO MUCH TIME ON THEIR HANDS

The following is an excerpt from a Wall Street Journal article. Clearly, someone in our federal government has too much time on their hands if they can find time to come up with all of these codes!

It's not clear how many klutzes want to notify their insurers that a doctor visit was a W22.02XAQ, "walked into a lamppost, initial encounter" (or for that matter, a W22.02XD, "walked into a lamppost, subsequent encounter").

...Code V91.07XA, which involves a "burn due to water skis on fire," is another mystery---is it a trick skier jumping through hoops of fire? How does it happen?

...Indeed, health plans may never again wonder where a patient got hurt. There are codes for injuries in opera houses, art galleries, squash courts, and nine locations in and around a mobile home, from the bathroom to the bedroom.

...It will also have a code for recording that a patient's injury occurred in a chicken coop.

The new system is known as "ICD-10, for International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision". It's based upon a system that the World Health Organization created and which has been in use in many countries for more than a decade to help gather information for researchers and clinicians.

But U.S. government regulators---from the same agency implementing much of ObamaCare---clearly got carried away.

The WHO for instance did not see the need for 72 codes about injuries tied to birds. But American doctors whose patients run afoul of a duck, macaw, parrot, goose, turkey or chicken will be able to select from nine codes for each animal, notes George Alex, an official at the Advisory Board Co., a health-care research firm.

There are 312 animal codes in all, he says, compared to nine in the international version. There are separate codes for "bitten by turtle" and "struck by turtle".

When do even the regulators admit this is getting ridiculous?