



# Transform Medical Coding Audits with Smart Checklists



**Debi Behunin** Vice President of Product Innovation

In the healthcare industry, accurate medical coding is crucial for ensuring quality patient care, proper billing, revenue integrity, and compliance. One powerful tool that can significantly enhance the auditing process is the checklist.

## HOW TO LEVERAGE CHECKLISTS

[Audit Manager+](#) features 150 pre-built, intuitive checklists designed around the most common auditing needs. Users can edit and update checklists based on their organization's needs.

Checklists in Audit Manager+ go beyond simple Yes or No responses – they also include dates, picklists, numbers, free form text, user instructions, and dividing lines, drastically expanding the potential for in-depth auditing and reporting.



## THE VALUE OF CHECKLISTS IN AUDITING

- 1 Uniform Procedures:** Checklists ensure that every audit follows the same procedures, reducing variability and guaranteeing that all necessary steps are completed. This uniformity helps maintain high standards across all audits.
- 2 Ensures Compliance:** Checklists help auditors adhere to regulatory requirements and internal policies, minimizing the potential for omissions during audits. This adherence is vital for maintaining legal and procedural compliance.
- 3 Human Error Mitigation:** Medical coding is complex and prone to human error. Checklists act as a safeguard against forgetting critical steps or overlooking important details, thereby reducing the likelihood of mistakes.
- 4 Accuracy:** By providing a clear, step-by-step guide, checklists help maintain high levels of accuracy in auditing and more consistency between auditors. This precision is essential for reliable audit outcomes and effective error correction.
- 5 Streamlined Processes:** Checklists streamline the auditing process, making it more efficient and less time-consuming. This efficiency allows auditors to complete more audits in less time without compromising quality.
- 6 Focus:** Checklists help auditors stay focused on the task at hand, reducing distractions and improving productivity. This focus ensures that audits are thorough and meticulous.
- 7 Audit Documentation:** Checklists provide a documented trail of the auditing process, which is essential for accountability and transparency. This documentation can be invaluable during reviews and audits by external bodies.
- 8 Consistent and Usable Outputs:** Checklists ensure consistent outputs from every audit. This consistency allows for high-quality reporting, analysis, and trending of audit results, facilitating better decision-making.
- 9 Credibility:** The consistent results provided by checklists improve the credibility of audit outcomes. Checklists

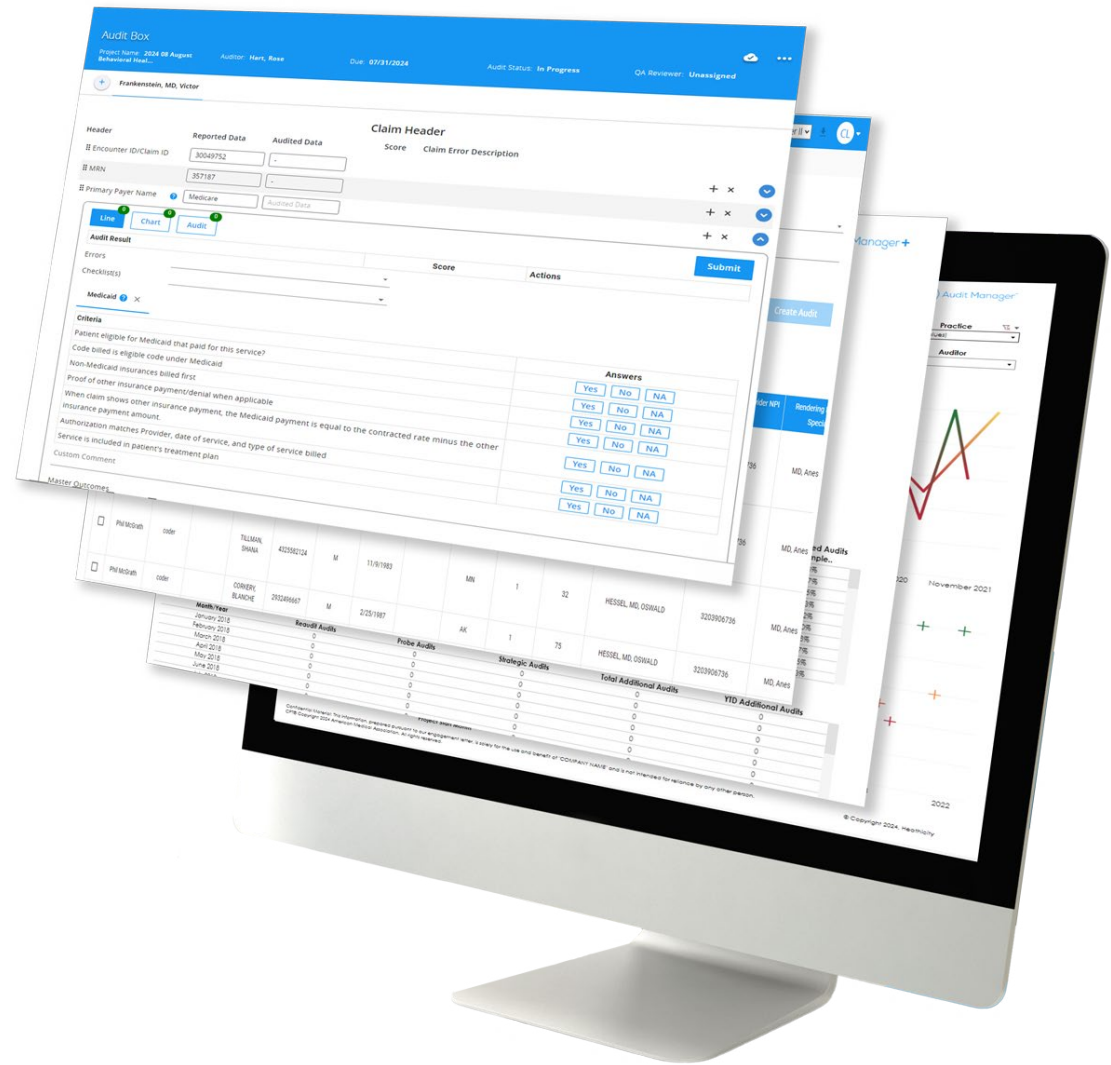
help make the auditing process more objective, moving it from subjective judgments to objective evaluations.

**10** **Review and Improvement:** Checklists can be analyzed and adjusted over time. This ability to track and determine the effectiveness of adjustments makes them a dynamic tool for continuous improvement.

When done correctly, checklists can be a game-changer that can transform the medical coding audit process within healthcare organizations.

By promoting consistency, reducing errors, enhancing efficiency, and ensuring accountability, checklists can lead to more accurate and reliable audit results.

Implementing effective checklists requires careful design, training, continuous improvement, and leveraging technology, which is why Audit Manager+ features built-in checklists designed to streamline your efforts.



**[Boost Your Checklist Strength Now](#)**



## Debi Behunin

Vice President of Product Innovation

Debi Behunin has been employed at Healthicity since January of 2020 where she is applying her extensive experience helping healthcare providers improve clinical documentation and adherence to compliance rules and regulations. Prior to that she has over 30 years' experience in Payment and Revenue Integrity industries. She has held influential Product Development/Management roles and sales for all the primary vendors in the payment integrity space. Her focus has been on creating and implementing products and services that assure compliance to rules and regulations that prevent erroneous payments. Debi is an expert in both the Property & Casualty and Group Health industries serving both industries for at least 10 years. Her clinical knowledge and background have allowed her to develop products and services unique within the industry that assure quality healthcare and services through accurate coding, documentation, and payment.