



ADVISORY INSIGHT

AI-Assisted Coding: What the Risk Conversation Is Missing

A focused advisory resource for healthcare revenue cycle leaders.

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EXECUTIVE INTRODUCTION

The Risk Conversation Around AI Coding

AI-assisted coding tools are being adopted at a rapid pace. The efficiency gains are real, and the pressure to reduce manual coding costs is significant. But the risk conversation happening in most organizations is incomplete.

Most discussions focus on accuracy rates and vendor claims. They rarely address the structural question: what happens when AI coding operates without adequate human oversight, documentation quality controls, or audit infrastructure?

The core risk:

AI coding tools amplify whatever is already present in the documentation environment. If documentation is inconsistent, AI will code inconsistently — at scale.

What Most Organizations Are Missing

The risk is not that AI will make random errors. The risk is that AI will systematically replicate the documentation patterns it is trained on — including patterns that are incomplete, ambiguous, or misaligned with payer requirements.

Organizations that deploy AI coding without first addressing documentation quality and establishing human oversight frameworks are trading one set of problems for another.

Building an Oversight Framework

Effective AI coding governance requires three components: documentation quality standards that the AI can reliably interpret, a human review layer for edge cases and high-risk code categories, and an audit process that evaluates AI output against compliance benchmarks — not just accuracy rates.

Organizations that build this infrastructure before scaling AI adoption are significantly better positioned to realize the efficiency gains without the compliance exposure.

CLOSING PERSPECTIVE

Governance Before Scale

AI coding is not a compliance risk in itself. It becomes a risk when it is deployed without the documentation quality, human oversight, and audit infrastructure needed to validate its output.

The organizations that will benefit most from AI coding are those that treat governance as a prerequisite, not an afterthought.

Schave Health Advisory works with healthcare organizations to strengthen coding quality, documentation alignment, audit readiness, and operational performance.

To schedule a conversation: schavehealthadvisory.com