

LW Consulting, Inc.

CodingAlert

Coding & Audit Pitfalls:
Best Practices to Avoid Compliance Issues

January 2018

Number: 01608034780
Claim Received: 06/09/10

DATES OF SERVICE	PROCEDURE CODE
05/21/10-05/21/10	82272
05/21/10-05/21/10	94010
05/21/10-05/21/10	94375
05/21/10-05/21/10	93000
05/21/10-05/21/10	36410

CPT Coding Updates for 2018

It's that time of year again, when the new CPT codes become effective. Make sure to get the current year's CPT book or you could be coding inappropriately since this year, among other changes, observation codes have been revised and five new evaluation and management codes were added.

Below is a summary of the different code categories and CPT chapter code additions, deletions and revisions. **How will they affect your practice?**

- There are no changes to the CPT Appendices for 2018
- 181 new codes were added
- 55 codes were revised
- 84 codes were deleted

Understanding the Three CPT Code Categories

Prepared by: Allison Disessa, CPC, CPMA, Consultant

CPT codes are made up of three categories:

1. Category I: CPT codes for Evaluation and Management, Anesthesia, Surgery, Radiology, Pathology and Laboratory, and Medicine.
2. Category II: Supplemental tracking codes (No RVU)
3. Category III: Temporary codes

Category I:

Category I Code Selections	Added	Revised	Deleted
Evaluation and Management	5	4	2
Anesthesia	5	0	5
Surgery	42	24	19
Radiology	7	3	18
Pathology and Laboratory	40	17	12
Medicine	13	7	4

Category II:

Only one code has been revised for Category II (4151F). No codes were added or deleted.

Category II codes are tracking codes for the collection of data to measure performance. These codes are numeric with an alpha (F) character as the 5th digit. These codes were adopted by the Performance Measure Advisory Group (PMAG). The PMAG is made up of experts in performance measurement from the following organizations, AMA, NCQA, CMS, AHRQ and JCAHO. CPT II codes are released annually and updated semi-annually in January and July. These codes can be found on the AMA website.

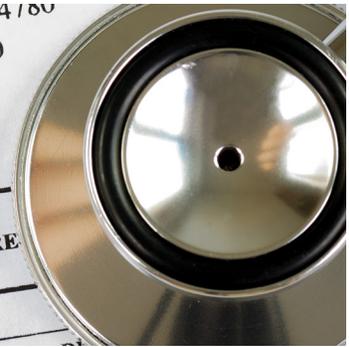
To inquire about coding education, medical record documentation or compliance auditing, contact Rob Senska by calling 609-249-3819 or email RSenska@LW-Consult.com.

LW Consulting, Inc.

CodingAlert

Number: 01608034 / 80
Claim Received: 06/09/10

DATES OF SERVICE	PROCEDURE CODE
06/01/10	82272



January 2018

CPT II codes are billed in the procedure code field, just as CPT Category I codes are billed. CPT II codes describe clinical components usually, included in the evaluation and management or clinical service that a provider performs. They do not have any relative value units associated with them; therefore, Category II CPT codes are billed with a \$0.00 charge amount. Category II codes reduces data collection burden on physicians and other health care entities of chart review for many HEDIS performance measures. In addition, these codes can be used to participate in Medicare's PQRS bonus program. Special rules apply, see the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services website at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/PQRS/index.html> for details.

Category III:

There were 69 codes added, 24 codes deleted, and none revised.

Category III codes are temporary codes for emerging technology, services, procedures, and service paradigms. These codes are numeric with an alpha character as the 5th digit. Category III codes allow data collection for service and procedures. If a category III code is available, this code must be reported instead of a Category I unlisted code. Use of an unlisted code does not offer the opportunity for the collection of specific data. Codes in this section may eventually become a Category I CPT code.

To minimize costly medical billing and coding errors, it's important to stay up to date on the requirements. LW Consulting, Inc, can assist you with coding education, medical record documentation and/or compliance auditing.

Visit www.lw-consult.com/industries/physician-practices to learn more about our physician services.

To inquire about coding education, medical record documentation or compliance auditing, contact Rob Senska by calling 609-249-3819 or email RSenska@LW-Consult.com.

 LW CONSULTING, INC.
www.LW-Consult.com