

LW Consulting, Inc.

# CodingAlert

**Coding & Audit Pitfalls:**  
Best Practices to Avoid Compliance Issues

December 2018

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DATES OF SERVICE	PROCEDURE CODE	
05/21/10-05/21/10	82272	PU
05/21/10-05/21/10	94010	PULMO
05/21/10-05/21/10	94375	CARDIOVASCULAR SE
05/21/10-05/21/10	93000	VENIPUNCTURE
05/21/10-05/21/10	36410	

## FY 2019 CPT Updates: Staying on Top of Current Procedural Terminology Changes

This CodingAlert provides a brief summary of some of the recent modifications to the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code set. The CPT code set is a uniform coding system for documentation and reimbursement purposes which is composed of descriptive terms and identifying codes primarily used to identify medical services and procedures utilized by physicians and other health care providers. Every year the code set undergoes a number of updates and changes in an effort to capture and describe the latest scientific and technological advances in medical, surgical and diagnostic services. Below is a snapshot of some of the CPT code set changes from 2018 to 2019, which become effective on January 1, 2019.

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### 2018-2019 Change Highlights:

- There are 335 code changes, which include new codes, deleted codes and revised codes.
- There are no changes in the anesthesia and auditory system surgical codes.
- Chapters with the most changes contain Category II codes, under surgery and include Integumentary, Pathology and the Medicine section.
- There are three new remote patient monitoring codes reflecting how health care

professional can utilize technology to benefit quality of care by connecting with patients at home and for data gathering pertinent to care management and coordination.

- Two new interprofessional internet consultation coes have been addedemphasizing the importance of using non-verbal communication technology to coordinate patient care between a consulting physician and a treating physician.

### Some of the focal areas for new and revised codes include:

- Skin biopsy
- Fine needle aspiration biopsy
- Adaptive behavior analysis
- Central nervous system assessments including psychological
- Neuropsychological testing

For a complete listing of all of the CPT code changes effective January 1, 2019, you can visit the government website at: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/HCPSCReleaseCodeSets/Alpha-Numeric-HCPCS.html>

LW Consulting Inc. provides quality focused consulting in the areas of audit, provider compliance programs, practice evaluations, and clinical documentation compliance. To schedule an appointment, contact Rob Senska by calling 609-249-3819 or email RSenska@LW-Consult.com.

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.

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