

LW Consulting, Inc.

# CodingAlert

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

May 2019

Number: 01608034780  
Claim Received: 06/09/10

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	

## New Codes for Virtual Visits and Consults

In light of changes in medical practice and technology, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently proposed code changes that address virtual visits and consults correlating to advancements of the healthcare system's use of asynchronous telemedicine tools to facilitate better patient-centered care; often delivered in patient homes.

Below is a brief summary of some new codes, per the CMS statute, and their pertinent documentation requirements:

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### **HCPCS G2012 (Brief communication technology-based service used to evaluate whether an office visit or other service is necessary, e.g. virtual check-in):**

- Conducted by a physician/other qualified health care professional (QHCP) who can report evaluation and management services
- Provided to an established patient
- Cannot originate from a related E/M service

provided within the previous 7 days or lead to an E/M service/procedure within the next 24 hours or first available appointment

- Requires 5–10 minutes of medical discussion

### **HCPCS G2010 (Remote professional evaluations conducted via recorded video and/or images submitted by an established patient, e.g. store and forward):**

- Include interpretation with patient follow-up within 24-business hours
- Cannot originate from a related E/M service provided within the previous 7 days or lead to an E/M service/procedure within the next 24 hours or first available appointment

### **CPT 99451 (Interprofessional telephone/internet/electronic health record assessment and management service):**

- Written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other QHCP from consultative physician
- Requires 5 or more minutes of medical consultative time

To inquire about coding education, medical record documentation or compliance auditing, contact Harriett Wall by calling 207-613-2992 or email [HWall@LW-Consult.com](mailto:HWall@LW-Consult.com).

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## CPT 99452 (Interprofessional telephone/internet/electronic health record referral service(s)):

- Provided by a treating/requesting physician or QHCP
- Requires 30 minutes of consultative time

## CPT 99446 (Interprofessional telephone/internet assessment and management service):

- Verbal and written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other QHCP from consultative physician
- 5–10 minutes of medical consultative discussion/review

## CPT 99447 (Interprofessional telephone/internet assessment and management service):

- Verbal and written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other QHCP from consultative physician
- 11–20 minutes of medical consultative discussion/review

## CPT 99448 (Interprofessional telephone/internet assessment and management service):

- Verbal and written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other QHCP
- 21–30 minutes of medical consultative discussion/review

## CPT 99449 (Interprofessional telephone/internet assessment and management service):

- Verbal and written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other QHCP from consultative physician
- 31 minutes or more of medical consultative discussion/review

### Sources:

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2018-11-23/pdf/2018-24170.pdf>

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.

Explore Our Services

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