

Dermatology Coding Alert

ICD-10: Varicose Vein Diagnoses Branch Out in 2015

Specify leg and part of leg with new diagnosis code set.

As is a recurring theme with most of the ICD-10 codes, when coders officially begin using the new diagnostic code set on Oct. 1, 2015, they will find increased specificity for varicose vein diagnoses.

Currently, ICD-9 has specific diagnosis codes describing varicose veins of lower extremities with ulcer, with inflammation, with ulcer and inflammation, and other complications. ICD-10 codes add to that specificity by having separate sets of codes for each leg, as well as for what part of the leg the veins appear on.

Example: The single ICD-9 code for varicose veins of lower extremities with ulcer is:

- 454.0 Varicose veins of lower extremities with ulcer.

ICD-10 codes for the same condition are:

Unspecified leg:

- I83.001 Varicose veins of unspecified lower extremity with ulcer of thigh
- I83.002 ... of calf
- I83.003 ... of ankle
- I83.004 ... of heel and midfoot
- I83.005 ... other part of foot
- I83.008 ... other part of lower leg
- I83.009 ... unspecified site.

Right leg:

- I83.011 Varicose veins of right lower extremity with ulcer of thigh
- I83.012 ... of calf
- I83.013 ... of ankle
- I83.014 ... of heel and midfoot
- I83.015 ... other part of foot
- I83.018 ... other part of lower leg
- I83.019 ...unspecified site.

Left leg:

- I83.021 Varicose veins of left lower extremity with ulcer of thigh
- I83.022 ... of calf
- I83.023 ... of ankle
- I83.024 ... of heel and midfoot
- I83.025 ... other part of foot
- I83.028 ... other part of lower leg
- I83.029 ...unspecified site.

The other ICD-9 codes will map to similar groups of more-specific ICD-10 codes:

- **ICD-9: 454.1** Varicose veins of lower extremities with inflammation

- **ICD-10:**

- o I83.10 □ Varicose veins of unspecified lower extremity with inflammation
- o I83.11 □ Varicose veins of right lower extremity with inflammation
- o I83.12 □ Varicose veins of left lower extremity with inflammation.

ICD-9: 454.2 □ Varicose veins of lower extremities with ulcer and inflammation

ICD-10:

- o I83.20x □ Varicose veins of unspecified lower extremity with both ulcer and inflammation
- o I83.21x □ Varicose veins of right lower extremity with both ulcer and inflammation
- o I83.22x □ Varicose veins of left lower extremity with both ulcer and inflammation.

ICD-9: **454.8** □ Varicose veins of lower extremities with other complications

ICD-10:

- o I83.81x □ Varicose veins of lower extremities with pain
- o I83.89x □ Varicose veins of lower extremities with other complications.

Tip: Visit <https://www.aapc.com/codes/> for more ICD-9 to ICD-10 code mapping.