Dermatology Coding Alert

Reader Question: Bill 15877 Only Once for Proper Pay

Question: Our dermatologist removed two lipomas from a patient\'s back using suction cannula. The dermatologist incised areas and used the suction cannula to remove the fatty tissue. I reported 15877 for the procedure. Does this code include all areas on the trunk or would you bill the code twice for the two separate sites?

Delaware Subscriber

Answer: The code does not specify \"each\" so you should report the code (15877, Suction assisted lipectomy; trunk) only once even though the dermatologist removed two lipomas from the patient\'s back.

-- Answers to You Be the Coder and Reader Questions were reviewed by **Linda Martien, CPC, CPC-H,** National Healthcare Review in Woodland Hills, Calif.