

Dermatology Coding Alert

You Be the Coder: Acne Steroid Injections

Question: Our dermatologist injects an acne cyst with 0.05 cc of Kenalog. How should I code the procedure and medicine?

Virginia Subscriber

Answer: You should report the injection with 11900 (Injection, intralesional; up to and including 7 lesions). This code describes an intralesional injection of a corticosteroid, such as triamcinolone acetonide, for large nodules. Insurers may cover the treatment with an acne diagnosis (706.1, Diseases of sebaceous glands; other acne) if the injection is medically necessary.

You should use J3301 (Injection, triamcinolone acetonide, 10 mg) for 10 mg of the steroid.