

## **Dermatology Coding Alert**

### **You Be the Coder: Multiple Skin Tags**

Question: Patient has 30 skin tags. Should we report 11200 for the first 15 lesions and 11201 for each additional 10 lesions? Also, how should I code the last five lesions?

Answer: You should report 11200 (Removal of skin tags, multiple fibrocutaneous tags, any area; up to and including 15 lesions) for the first 15 tags and then code two units of 11201 (... each additional ten lesions or part thereof [List separately in addition to code for primary procedure]) for the next 20 skin tags.

Explanation: The first code (11200) refers to the first 15 lesions. The next code (11201) refers to the next 10 skin tags which sums to 25 lesions. Finally, to cover the last five lesions for a total sum of 30 lesions, you should report 11201 a second time because even though there aren't 35 lesions, reporting 11201 a second time includes the last five. This is correct coding, but insurers usually consider removal of skin tags medically unnecessary.