

Internal Medicine Coding Alert

Reader Question: Coding for Supplies

Question: Were administering fluids for rehydration in our office and are having trouble finding the code for the solution-set tubing that connects the fluid bag to the needle. Where can I find these codes?

Texas Subscriber

Answer: Some practices bill for the ancillary supplies for this procedure as a way of tracking their inventory, but unfortunately the tubing and needles are not usually paid separately, according to **Jim Stephenson**, billing manager for Premium Medical Management Systems Inc., of Elyria, Ohio. But, you can bill 90780 (IV infusion for therapy, up to one hour); and 90781 (each additional hour, up to 8 hours) along with the fluid code that youre using, says Stephenson.