

## Internal Medicine Coding Alert

### Reader Questions: V Code Vital for TB Test Claim

Question: When the internist's staff applies a purified protein derivative (PPD) tuberculosis (TB) test on a patient, what V code should I report? ICD-9 code V03.2 does not exactly describe the service. Do you have any coding tips?

Washington, D.C., Subscriber

**Answer:** You should report V74.1 (Special screening examination for bacterial and spirochetal diseases; pulmonary tuberculosis) when your internist's staff applies a PPD TB test. Code V03.2 (Need for prophylactic vaccination and inoculation against bacterial diseases; tuberculosis [BCG]) is for vaccination with BCG, whereas the PPD test is for screening. Report 86580 (Skin test; tuberculosis, intradermal) for the test with V74.1 appended.