

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

Correction: Only Report 99211 With Injection Code if the Nurse Provides Separately Identifiable E/M Service

In our article "Know These 4 Myths About 99211" (Insider, Vol. 11, No. 32), we indicated that if a nurse has to check a patient's vitals prior to giving an injection, or educates the patient on side effects of the drug, you can separately report 99211 along with the injection code.

In actuality, coding experts consider those examples to be part of the normal pre- and post-service work included in most injection codes. You should only separately report 99211 if the nurse goes beyond that and provides a separate, medically necessary E/M service -- for example, if the patient has a separate illness or a reaction to the injection that requires a separate evaluation.