

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

CPT 2008 SPECIAL ISSUE: New Codes Will Ease Non-Chemo Infusion Coding

Your NPP's participation in long team conferences may lead to reimbursement

Good news: If you've had trouble obtaining proper payment for subcutaneous infusion that's not for chemo-therapy, then three new codes in 2008 could make your life much easier.

New codes 90769-90771 cover subcutaneous infusion for -therapy or prophylaxis.- You must specify which substance or drug the physician provides. The codes cover infusion up to one hour, each additional hour, and -each additional pump set-up with establishment of new subcutaneous infusion site(s).-

Another code, 90776, covers each additional sequential IV push of a therapeutic, prophylactic or diagnostic injection which your physician provides in a facility. You'll use this as an add-on code with existing code 90774. The main difference between 90776 and existing code 90775 is that 90775 covers additional pushes of a new drug, while 90776 covers more pushes of the same drug.

As previously reported: You'll also have new codes for paravaginal repair via vaginal approach (57285) and laparoscopic approach (57423). You'll also have four new codes for laparoscopic hysterectomy (58570-57573). (See The Insider, Vol. 8, No. 31 for more on these codes.)

Also, The Insider previously reported you'll have new codes for smoking and tobacco cessation counseling (99406-99407), alcohol and/or substance abuse screening (99408-99409), telephone-based evaluation and management services (99441-99443) and online evaluation and management services (99444). (See The Insider, Vol. 8, No. 30 for more on these codes.)

Team conferences: CPT 2008 also includes three new codes for medical team conferences with an interdisciplinary team of health care professionals (93366-99368). These cover participation by a Non-Physician Practitioner (NPP) (99366), participation by a physician (99367), and participation by an NPP lasting 30 minutes or more (93368).

Say goodbye to -gastric band-: CPT 2008 removes the phrase -ad-justable gastric band- from the de-scriptors for 43770-43774 and 43848. Instead, these codes cover the more-inclusive (and correct) -adjustable gastric restrictive device.-

Mesh becomes more versatile: The descriptor for mesh-placement code 49568 will now include language that clarifies you should report this code for the placement of mesh for debridement of necrotizing soft tissue infection. You'll use this code as an add-on when your physician performs an incisional or ventral hernia repair.

You'll still use 49568 for mesh placement for repair of ventral or incisional hernia.