

Eli's Rehab Report

Dont Be Sore About Coding for Wound Care

When CPT 2001 introduced codes 97601 and 97602, PM&R practices were pleased to finally have an accurate way to bill for wound care, but physicians who use these codes for debridement they perform themselves are missing out on significant reimbursement.

Although 97601-97602 are accurate when nonphysicians perform wound care, physiatrists should bill 11040-11044 for debridement.

"In 2002, the CPT panel determined that 97601 and 97602 should only be billed by nonphysician practitioners, such as physician assistants, physical therapists and nurse practitioners who are licensed and certified to perform debridement," says **Kim Kuman**, health policy coordinator at the American Academy of