

## Eli's Rehab Report

### Reader Question: 27096 Refers to SI Joint, Not Hip

**Question:** Our physiatrist performed a right hip joint injection under fluoroscopic guidance. His operative note said that he verified the needle tip breach using arthroscopy and performed an arthrogram using 3 cc of Hypaque 60 percent. He then injected Bupivacaine and Xylocaine. How should we report this procedure? Our office manager recommended 27096, but the physiatrist said it wasn't accurate.

California Subscriber

**Answer:** The physiatrist is correct. Because 27096 (Injection procedure for sacroiliac joint, arthrography and/or anesthetic/steroid) refers to the sacroiliac (SI) joint, which is at the bottom of the patient's back, you cannot report this code for hip arthrography. You should report 27093 (Injection procedure for hip arthrography; without anesthesia) for the hip injection that your physiatrist performed.

If your physiatrist also performed the supervision and interpretation of the films, you can also report 73525 (Radiologic examination, hip, arthrography, radiological supervision and interpretation). But if a radiologist performs this supervision, he should report 73525.