

Eli's Rehab Report

Reader Question ~ Add a TENS Application Code to Your 'Untimed' List

Question: Is <u>CPT 64550 for TENS</u> application an untimed procedure? I would assume by its nature that it is timed, but I want to be sure before I bill it.

Pennsylvania Subscriber

Answer: Actually, 64550 (Application of surface [transcutaneous] neurostimulator) is untimed. **Why:** There are no time specifications listed in the code's descriptor. Just remember, CMS recently clarified in Transmittal 1019 that you may not bill more than one unit per day of an untimed code. This means that if a therapist applies TENS at more than one anatomical site, you are limited to billing 64550 once.