

Eli's Rehab Report

Reader Question: Fluoroscopy Code

Question: How should I code a nerve block with fluoroscopy?

Minnesota Subscriber

Answer: Nerve block codes 64400*-64450* were billed using 76000 (Fluoroscopy [separate procedure], up to one hour physician time, other than 71023 or 71034 [e.g., cardiac fluoroscopy]). The practice changed in 2001, when the descriptor for 76003 (Fluoroscopic guidance for needle placement [e.g., biopsy, aspiration, injection, localization device]) was changed to include the word injection. Therefore, for all claims for dates of service after Jan. 1, 2001, use 76003 to denote fluoroscopy for nerve blocks. Most carriers will reimburse practices for up to three nerve block injections in any given 60-day period, and some payers require the submission of documentation supporting the necessity for any additional injections with the claims.