

Eli's Rehab Report

Reader Question: Orthotics

Question: Can we bill 97703 for orthotic checkout and 97504 for the fitting and training on the same visit?

Minnesota Subscriber

Answer: Yes. You can bill both orthotics dispensing codes on the same visit, if your documentation shows that you trained the patient to use the orthotics (if the nurse only puts the orthotics into a patient's shoes, that does not constitute training). The checkout code is used to evaluate how it fits and to adjust or align if necessary.

It can be difficult to get commercial carriers to recognize orthotics codes, so it is very important to note on each bill that the patient is under the care of a physiatrist, therapist or podiatrist, and to note the diagnosis and treatment goals. If the injury stemmed from an accident, include the initial accident report with the claims.