

Eli's Rehab Report

READER QUESTIONS: Code What Was Performed, Not Results

Question: If my physician dictates nerve conduction study and then states that the F-wave was unobtainable, should I report [CPT 95900](#), or can I report 95903?

California Subscriber

Answer: Even if the F-wave is absent, you can report with an F-wave using 95903 (Nerve conduction, amplitude and latency/velocity study, each nerve; motor, with F-wave study) rather than 95900 (Nerve conduction, amplitude and latency/velocity study, each nerve; motor, without F-wave study) - as long as the provider documents the response or lack of response.

In this case, the measurement is "absent" or "zero." The test was actually performed, but the result was zero/absent. Your provider did perform the test and should be able to code for the testing he performed. The result is not the determining factor in this case.

- You Be the Coder and Reader Questions were reviewed by **Marvel Hammer, RN, CPC, CCS-P, CHCO**, owner of MJH Consulting in Denver.