

Outpatient Facility Coding Alert

CPT® 17110 bundles 11305,11900 for Plantar's Wart Removal

Question: Our dermatologist recently performed removal of a plantar wart approximately 5mm in diameter. He initially shaved the lesion and then cauterized it with silver nitrate. He finally injected it with .01 ml of Candida skin test antigen. What CPT® code(s) should I report for the procedure? I am thinking of reporting 11305, 11900 and 17110. Is this appropriate?

Montana Subscriber

Answer: Even though your dermatologist performed three different procedures (shaving, cautery, and intralesional injection), you cannot report three CPT® codes for the removal of a single lesion. For this reason, you cannot report 11305 (Shaving of epidermal or dermal lesion, single lesion, scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia; lesion diameter 0.5 cm or less), 11900 (Injection, intralesional; up to and including 7 lesions) and 17110 (Destruction [e.g., laser surgery, electrosurgery, cryosurgery, chemosurgery, surgical curettement], of benign lesions other than skin tags or cutaneous vascular proliferative lesions; up to 14 lesions) together for this procedure.

You'll only report 17110 as this represents the most extensive service and accurately describes the service.