

Outpatient Facility Coding Alert

Reader Question: Easier Coding for I&D of Complex and Multiple Cysts

Question: Mrs. Brown presents to the center with cysts all over her body. The dermatologist cut into the cysts, removing 20 while draining each cyst. How do we code for this procedure?

New Mexico Subscriber

Answer: You should use 10061 (Incision and drainage of abscess [e.g., carbuncle, suppurative hidradenitis, cutaneous or subcutaneous abscess, cyst, furuncle, or paronychia], complicated or multiple).

Reminder: Selecting the appropriate I&D (incision and drainage) code means the documentation will have to support the complexity of the procedure. You can support a complicated I&D when the procedure requires multiple incisions or the abscess gets complicated by an infection. q