

## Outpatient Facility Coding Alert

### Reader Question: Know How to Report Replacement of Pacemaker Multilead Battery

**Question:** The provider had to replace the pacemaker battery (multiple lead), as it had stopped working. How do we report this scenario?

Ohio Subscriber

**Answer:** Pick a code that is specific to multiple lead systems and includes both removing the old generator and inserting the replacement. You may report 33229 (Removal of permanent pacemaker pulse generator with replacement of pacemaker pulse generator; multiple lead system).

As for the diagnosis coding, report Z45.010 (Encounter for checking and testing of cardiac pacemaker pulse generator [battery]), which is appropriate for replacing the battery.

**Remember:** If the pulse generator requires replacement because of a complication, including breaking down before the expected end of life, you may think of reporting a complication code, T82.111A (Breakdown [mechanical] of cardiac pulse generator [battery], initial encounter).

Payers also may require you to report the condition leading to pacemaker insertion, so check payer policies for reporting and coverage requirements.