

## Outpatient Facility Coding Alert

### Reader Question: Report 29819 for Shoulder Implant Removal

**Question:** An orthopedic surgeon arthroscopically removed an implant from the patient's shoulder (the implant was suture anchored in the rotator cuff). How should we report this to Medicare?  
Pennsylvania Subscriber

**Answer:** You can submit 29819 (Arthroscopy, shoulder, surgical; with removal of loose body or foreign body).

**Remember:** Surgical arthroscopy always includes a diagnostic arthroscopy so you should never use a diagnostic code with a surgical CPT® code such as 29819.