

## Outpatient Facility Coding Alert

### You Be the Coder: Know How to Code for Nasal Valve Suspension

**Question:** Which CPT® code should I use for nasal valve suspension?

Wisconsin Subscriber

**Answer:** You should report nasal valve suspension with 30465 (Repair of nasal vestibular stenosis [e.g., spreader grafting, lateral nasal wall reconstruction]).

Code 30465 describes repair of nasal valve stenosis, a condition in which the patient's nasal passage narrows. "Various surgical procedures for correction of nasal valve stenosis exist and most frequently involve the use of spreader grafts, but also include insertion of cartilage or plates, flaring sutures and suspension methods," states the article "Suspension Sutures for Nasal Valve Stenosis" available at [www.surgeons.org](http://www.surgeons.org).

Suspension methods, such as the otolaryngologist in your example uses, include using a special type of stitch for nasal valve suspension. Because this procedure repairs nasal vestibular stenosis, 30465 appropriately describes the procedure.

**Modifier alert:** You should report 30465 when the otolaryngologist performs bilateral nasal valve suspension. If the physician does a unilateral repair, you should append modifier 52 (Reduced services) to 30465, states the instruction note following 30465 in CPT®.

**Caveat:** Payment of code 30465 is subject to medical necessity. Confirm your local policy before submitting the claim.