

## Home Health ICD-9/ICD-10 Alert

### Reader Questions: Choose The Right Code For Artificial Openings

Question: Is it appropriate to code V58.49 (Other specified aftercare following surgery) if we are changing chest tube or nephrostomy tube drainage bags?

-- Pennsylvania Subscriber

**Answer:** You can use V58.49 for changing and removal of drains, so it is appropriate for changing chest tubes.

The V55.x (Attention to artificial opening) codes are not appropriate for temporary artificial openings.

Code for care to a nephrostomy with V55.6 (Other artificial opening of urinary tract).