

Home Health ICD-9/ICD-10 Alert

Reader Questions: Don't Overcode For Wound Care

Question: We are providing wound care and IV antibiotic administration for a post-operative abdominal wound infection due to Staph aureus. How should I code?

-- Vermont Subscriber

Answer: For this patient, list:

- 998.59 (Other postoperative infection);
- 041.11 (Staphylococcus aureus); and
- V58.81 (Fitting and adjustment of vascular catheter).

Don't report a surgical dressing V code for this wound because it's a complicated wound.

If the Staph aureus is methicillin-resistant, follow the 041.11 code with V09.0 (Infection with microorganisms resistant to penicillins).

Unless otherwise indicated, reader questions were answered by **Lisa Selman-Holman, JD, BSN, RN, HCS-D, COS-C**, consultant and principal of **Selman-Holman & Associates** in Denton, TX.