

Home Health ICD-9/ICD-10 Alert

READER QUESTIONS: Therapy or Aftercare for a Broken Ankle?

Question: We are recertifying a patient for physical therapy (PT) only. He has a broken ankle that happened during the first recertification for PT only. Should I list V57.1 (Other physical therapy) or the after care for traumatic fracture?

Virginia Subscriber

Answer: Because the patient is receiving therapy only, the correct primary code is V57.1. List the V54.19 (Aftercare for traumatic fracture of other bone) code as a secondary diagnosis because it is the underlying condition for the therapy. Then, place the acute fracture code in M0246 across from V54.19.