

Pain Management Coding Alert

Reader Question: Choose Between 64447 and 64448 for Adductor Canal Block

Question: What is the correct way to report an adductor canal block for pain management?

Mississippi Subscriber

Answer: The correct code depends on whether your provider administered a single shot or placed a catheter for continuous infusion.

Option 1: Report a single-shot adductor canal pain block with 64447 (Injection, anesthetic agent; femoral nerve, single).

Option 2: Report a continuous infusion catheter pain block with 64448 (Injection, anesthetic agent; femoral nerve, continuous infusion by catheter [including catheter placement]).

The adductor canal (Hunter's canal) is a muscular tunnel in the middle third of the thigh. It contains the femoral artery and vein as well as branches of the femoral nerve.