

## Summary of 2017 CPT changes

### Moderate Sedation

99151-99157 Moderate Sedation code section has been replaced, (prior codes 99143-99150 are deleted). A careful review of Appendix G will prepare practices to separately report Moderate (Conscious) Sedation. This change decreases the value of the codes listed in Appendix G and will require separate documentation of the patient age and sedation time to code 99151-99157. The new codes are based on age groups (younger or older than age 5) and time increments of 15 minutes.

### Evaluation and Management changes

Two new medicine codes have been added to replace 99420 (Administration of Health Risk Assessment instrument). The new codes are found in the *Medicine Section* for a patient focused (96160) or a patient caregiver focused (96161) questionnaire.

### Physical Therapy

New Physical Therapy (PT) Occupational Therapy (OT) and Athletic Training (AT) codes have been introduced and now include reporting of three levels of evaluation and one re-evaluation, based on several factors including a patient history and an examination with development of a plan of care. The three levels of clinical decision making are low, moderate and high complexity using a standardized patient assessment instrument. The definitions of the extent of physical examination and complexity of decision making are unique to Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and do not match the Evaluation and Management definitions of these terms.

The tiered evaluation codes provide the opportunity to base coding on decision making instead of the episode of care (old codes were described as "initial" and "Re-Evaluation"). Codes 97161-97164 (PT), 97165-97168(OT), and 97169-97172 (AT) are resequenced code numbers that appear before the Modalities subsection.

### Surgery changes

Spinal Instrumentation codes have been replaced to identify intervertebral biomechanical devices and interspinous process stabilization devices. Refer to section 22853-22859 and 22867-22870.

Laryngoplasty code 31582 has been replaced by 4 new codes describing surgery for laryngeal stenosis (congenital or acquired) by several methods (31551-31554). New codes 31591 and 31592 describe procedures on the larynx to treat weakness or stenosis.

Endovenous ablation therapy code report a combination of mechanical and chemical methods to ablate the veins (36473 and 36474)

New Dialysis Circuit codes (36901-369096) A new subsection of nine codes report services that allow repeated access to blood vessels to perform hemodialysis. CPT code report two segments of this service, the peripheral dialysis segment and the central dialysis segment. The definitions and guidelines for the new codes cover 2 full pages and should be reviewed before using the new codes. Watch for bundling of imaging and radiological supervision and interpretation (S&I) required to perform the angioplasty

Spinal injections (62320-62327) series reports epidural and subarachnoid injections, with or without imaging guidance, reported by spinal region. These codes replace 62311-62318.

Transluminal balloon angioplasty codes have been replaced with four new codes (37246-37249) that replace the eight deleted codes that streamline reporting and include all necessary imaging and radiological S&I.

### **Radiology**

Mammography codes have been simplified and there are now three new codes to replace five deleted codes. Each of the three new codes include computer-aided detection (CAD). Two codes report diagnostic mammography (77065 unilateral and 77066 bilateral) and 77067 reports bilateral screening mammography with CAD detection when performed.

### **Pathology and Laboratory**

Drug screening codes have been expanded to report screening based on the method (80305-80307). New guidelines say to report the new codes only one per test regardless of the number of drug classes tested. New codes for genomic sequence analysis have been added to identify cardiac conditions, fetal chromosomal abnormalities and central nervous system infection.

### **Medicine Section**

Several vaccination codes have been revised to eliminate age from the description, such as nine influenza codes, and are now reported by dosage.

Psychotherapy codes 90832-90838 have been revised to include time with informants. CPT 90846 and 90847 are reported with “utilizing family psychotherapy techniques focusing on family dynamics” with or without the patient present. Time duration for this code is 50 minutes, and may be reported with the time exceeds 26 minutes (rounding rule).

Cardiovascular codes have been introduced to report repair of paravalvular leak, based on the site of the leak (mitral valve or aortic valve) using 93590-+93592.

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