

***National Correct Coding Initiative
Policy Manual
for Medicare Services
Revision Date: 1/1/2017***

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes, descriptions and other data only are copyright 2016 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.

CPT® is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association.

Applicable FARS\DFARS Restrictions Apply to Government Use.

Fee schedules, relative value units, conversion factors and/or related components are not assigned by the AMA, are not part of CPT, and the AMA is not recommending their use. The AMA does not directly or indirectly practice medicine or dispense medical services. The AMA assumes no liability for the data contained or not contained herein.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS
FOR
NATIONAL CORRECT CODING INITIATIVE POLICY MANUAL
FOR MEDICARE SERVICES**

Introduction

Introduction	Intro-2
Purpose	Intro-2
Policy Manual Background	Intro-5
Edit Development and Review Process	Intro-6
Sources of Information about NCCI and MUE	Intro-7
Correspondence to CMS about NCCI and its Contents	Intro-8

Chapter I - General Correct Coding Policies

List of Acronyms	I-3
A. Introduction	I-5
B. Coding Based on Standards of Medical/Surgical Practice	I-9
C. Medical/Surgical Package	I-12
D. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	I-17
E. Modifiers and Modifier Indicators	I-19
F. Standard Preparation/Monitoring Services for Anesthesia	I-26
G. Anesthesia Service Included in the Surgical Procedure	I-27
H. HCPCS/CPT Procedure Code Definition	I-27
I. <i>CPT Manual</i> and CMS Coding Manual Instructions	I-29
J. CPT "Separate Procedure" Definition	I-29
K. Family of Codes	I-30
L. More Extensive Procedure	I-30
M. Sequential Procedure	I-31

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

N. Laboratory Panel	I-32
O. Misuse of Column Two Code with Column One Code (Misuse of Code Edit Rationale)	I-32
P. Mutually Exclusive Procedures	I-33
Q. Gender-Specific Procedures	I-33
R. Add-on Codes	I-34
S. Excluded Service	I-35
T. Unlisted Procedure Codes	I-35
U. Modified, Deleted, and Added Code Pairs/Edits	I-35
Information moved to Introduction chapter, Section (Purpose), Page Intro-5 of this Manual	
V. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	I-35
W. Add-on Code Edit Tables	I-42

Chapter II - Anesthesia Services (CPT codes 00000 - 09999)

A. Introduction	II-2
B. Standard Anesthesia Coding	II-3
C. Radiologic Anesthesia Coding	II-14
D. Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC)	II-15
E. General Policy Statements	II-15

Chapter III - Surgery: Integumentary System (CPT Codes 10000 - 19999)

A. Introduction	III-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	III-2
C. Anesthesia	III-4
D. Incision and Drainage	III-5
E. Lesion Removal	III-6
F. Mohs Micrographic Surgery	III-8

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

G. Intralesional Injections	III-8
H. Repair and Tissue Transfer	III-9
I. Grafts and Flaps	III-10
J. Breast (Incision, Excision, Introduction, Repair and Reconstruction)	III-11
K. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	III-12
L. General Policy Statements	III-14

**Chapter IV - Surgery: Musculoskeletal System (CPT Codes 20000
- 29999)**

A. Introduction	IV-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	IV-2
C. Anesthesia	IV-4
D. Biopsy	IV-5
E. Arthroscopy	IV-6
F. <i>Spine (Vertebral Column)</i>	IV-8
G. Fractures, Dislocations, and Casting/Splinting/Strapping	IV-10
H. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	IV-15
I. General Policy Statements	IV-17

**Chapter V - Surgery: Respiratory, Cardiovascular, Hemic and
Lymphatic Systems (CPT Codes 30000 - 39999)**

A. Introduction	V-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	V-2
C. Respiratory System	V-4
D. Cardiovascular System	V-10
E. Hemic and Lymphatic Systems	V-22
F. Mediastinum	V-22

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

G. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	V-23
H. General Policy Statements	V-24

Chapter VI - Surgery: Digestive System (CPT Codes 40000 - 49999)

A. Introduction	VI-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	VI-2
C. Endoscopic Services	VI-4
D. Esophageal Procedures	VI-7
E. Abdominal Procedures	VI-8
F. Laparoscopy	VI-10
G. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	VI-12
H. General Policy Statements	VI-13

Chapter VII - Surgery: Urinary, Male Genital, Female Genital, Maternity Care and Delivery Systems (CPT Codes 50000 - 59999)

A. Introduction	VII-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	VII-2
C. Urinary System	VII-4
D. Male Genital System	VII-10
E. Female Genital System	VII-11
F. Laparoscopy	VII-12
G. Maternity Care and Delivery	VII-14
H. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	VII-15
I. General Policy Statements	VII-16

Chapter VIII - Surgery: Endocrine, Nervous, Eye and Ocular Adnexa, and Auditory Systems (CPT Codes 60000 - 69999)

A. Introduction	VIII-2
-----------------	--------

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	VIII-2
C. Nervous System	VIII-4
D. Ophthalmology	VIII-13
E. Auditory System	VIII-17
F. Operating Microscope	VIII-18
G. Laparoscopy	VIII-18
H. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	VIII-20
I. General Policy Statements	VIII-22

Chapter IX - Radiology Services (CPT Codes 70000 - 79999)

A. Introduction	IX-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	IX-2
C. Non-interventional Diagnostic Imaging	IX-5
D. Interventional/Invasive Diagnostic Imaging	IX-9
E. Nuclear Medicine	IX-13
F. Radiation Oncology	IX-15
G. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	IX-19
H. General Policy Statements	IX-20

Chapter X - Pathology and Laboratory Services (CPT Codes 80000 - 89999)

A. Introduction	X-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	X-3
C. Organ or Disease Oriented Panels	X-5
D. Evocative/Suppression Testing	X-6
E. Drug Testing	X-6
F. Molecular Pathology	X-7
G. Chemistry	X-8
H. Hematology and Coagulation	X-9
I. Transfusion Medicine	X-10

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

J. Microbiology	X-11
K. Anatomic Pathology (Cytopathology and Surgical Pathology)	X-13
L. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	X-19
M. General Policy Statements	X-26

Chapter XI - Medicine, Evaluation and Management Services (CPT Codes 90000 - 99999)

A. Introduction	XI-2
B. Therapeutic or Diagnostic Infusions/Injections and Immunizations	XI-2
C. Psychiatric Services	XI-7
D. Biofeedback	XI-9
E. Dialysis	XI-10
F. Gastroenterology	XI-10
G. Ophthalmology	XI-11
H. Otorhinolaryngologic Services	XI-12
I. Cardiovascular Services	XI-14
J. Pulmonary Services	XI-23
K. Allergy Testing and Immunotherapy	XI-26
L. Neurology and Neuromuscular Procedures	XI-27
M. Central Nervous System Assessments/Tests	XI-29
N. Chemotherapy Administration	XI-30
O. Special Dermatological Procedures	XI-32
P. Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	XI-33
Q. Medical Nutrition Therapy	XI-34
R. Osteopathic Manipulative Treatment	XI-35
S. Chiropractic Manipulative Treatment	XI-35
T. Miscellaneous Services	XI-36
U. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	XI-36

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

V. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	XI-43
W. General Policy Statements	XI-48

**Chapter XII - Supplemental Services (HCPCS Level II Codes
A0000 - V9999)**

A. Introduction	XII-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	XII-2
C. NCCI Procedure to Procedure (PTP) Edit Specific Issues	XII-4
D. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	XII-12
E. General Policy Statements	XII-17

Chapter XIII - Category III Codes (CPT Codes 0001T - 0999T)

A. Introduction	XIII-2
B. Evaluation and Management (E&M) Services	XIII-2
C. NCCI Procedure to Procedure (PTP) Edit Specific Issues	XIII-5
D. Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)	XIII-5
E. General Policy Statements	XIII-6