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COA Report

California Orthopaedic Association

October 16, 2020



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TOP NEWS

Prolonged E/M Services Revisions for 2021

CPT Assistant

For the Current Procedural Terminology 2021 code set, the guidelines and code descriptors for the evaluation and management (E/M) office or other outpatient visit services cod (99202-99215) have been significantly revised. The information included here is provided to raise awareness of the changes to current coding practice for those E/M codes that have been changed.

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PRACTICE GUIDANCE

CMS, AAOS Launching Bundled Payment Initiative in January

Becker's Hospital Review

CMS and the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons' registry program will collaborate on a model year four Bundled Payments for Care Improvement Advanced Program. Starting Jan. 1, CMS will use the registry's data as part of its alternate quality measures set to promote value-based care and improve decision-making through payment models for musculoskeletal care.

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Subacromial Decompression (29826)

KarenZupko & Associates, Inc.

Question: Our surgeon frequently documents in the procedure title that an arthroscopic subacromial decompression was performed. We are billing 29826 and are receiving denials from one particular payor stating that the documentation does not support the service. I am looking at the operative notes associated with these denials and see that in none of the

cases did the surgeon document any bony work. Is this required to report this code?

Answer: Thank you for sharing your experience. We heard of these denials years ago, so we appreciate your sharing this information that a payor is again looking at this code for supportive documentation. To answer your question, yes, CPT code 29826 includes work on the acromion.

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California Orthopaedic Association
1246 P Street | Sacramento, CA 95814
916-454-9884 | [Contact Us](#) | www.coa.org

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