Musculoskeletal System

CPT®

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Objectives

- Understand the components of the musculoskeletal system
- Define key terms
- Understand the most common pathologies affecting these organs
- Understand orthopedic surgeries and how they relate to pathologies
- Recognize common eponyms and acronyms
- Identify when other sections of CPT® or ICD-9-CM should be accessed
- Know when HCPCS Level II codes or modifiers are appropriate

Anatomy

Skeleton
- Axial
  - Skull
  - Chest
  - Spine
- Appendicular
  - Upper and lower limbs
  - Shoulders
  - Pelvis
Anatomy

– Skeleton
  • Body’s framework
  • Bones store calcium and produce blood cells
– Muscles
  • Assist with heat production
  • Posture
– Ligaments – attach bones to other bones
– Tendons – attach muscles to bones
– Cartilage – Acts as a cushion between bones in a joint

Muscles

• Types of Muscles
  – Striated
  – Smooth
  – Cardiac
• Naming Conventions
  – Size
  – Shape
  – Location
  – Action
  – Number of attachments
  – Direction of fibers
Axilla

- Armpit area

- Anatomic Landmarks
  - Posterior axillary fold
  - Anterior axillary fold

Fracture Eponyms

- Colles’ Fracture
- Smith’s Fracture
- Jones’ Fracture
- Salter-Harris Fracture
- Dupuytren’s Fracture
- Monteggia’s Fracture
Treatments

- Manipulation
- Reduction
- Fixation
  - Internal
  - External
- Cast application

ICD-9-CM Coding

Fifth Digit Specification

0 — Site unspecified
1 — Shoulder region (Acromioclavicular joint, Clavicle, Glenohumeral joint(s), Scapula, Sternoclavicular joint(s))
2 — Upper arm (Elbow joint, Humerus)
3 — Forearm (Radius, Ulna, Wrist joint)
4 — Hand (Carpals, Metacarpals, Phalanges (fingers))
5 — Pelvic region and thigh (Buttock, Femur, Hip joint)
6 — Lower leg (Fibula, Knee joint, Patella, Tibia)
7 — Ankle and foot (Ankle joint, Digits (toes), Metatarsals, Phalanges, foot, Tarsals, Other joints in foot)
8 — Other specified sites (Head, Neck, Ribs, Skull, Trunk, Vertebral column)
9 — Multiple sites
Arthropathies and Related Disorders

• Systemic lupus erythematosus
• Arthropathy
  – Rheumatoid arthritis
  – Osteoarthritis
• Internal derangements of the knee
  – MCL and ACL
  – Bucket handle tear

Dorsopathies

• 4th digit – type of disorder
• 5th digit – area of spine
• Diseases
  – Spondylosis
  – Displacement of vertebral disc
  – Degenerative disc disease
  – Spinal stenosis
  – Symptoms
Rheumatism, Excluding Back

- Enthesopathies
  - Capsulitis
  - Tendonitis
  - Tenosynovitis
  - Bursitis
  - Synovitis
- Compartment Syndrome
- Bunion

Osteopathies, Chondropathies, and Acquired Musculoskeletal Deformities

- Osteomyelitis
- Osteochondroses
- Osteoporosis
- Curvature of the spine
Injury and Poisoning

• Sprains and Strains
• Fractures
  ─ Comminuted
  ─ Impacted
  ─ Simple
  ─ Greenstick
  ─ Pathologic
  ─ Compression
  ─ Torus or Incomplete

Injury and Poisoning

• Compartment Syndrome
• Rotator Cuff Tear
• Nursemaid’s Elbow
Musculoskeletal System

• Table of Contents
  – Listing of headings and subheadings

• Anatomic Illustrations
  – Useful when coding from this subsection

• Knowledge of anatomy and terminology will be key

Musculoskeletal System

Formatted by anatomic site
  – General
  – Head, Neck (soft tissues) and Thorax
  – Back and Flank
  – Spine (vertebral column)
  – Abdomen
  – Shoulder, Humerus and Elbow
  – Forearm and Wrist
  – Hand and Fingers
  – Pelvis and Hip Joint
  – Femur and Ankle Joint
  – Foot and Toes
  – Application of Casts and Strapping
  – Endoscopy/Arthroscopy
Musculoskeletal System

• “General” subheading
  – Many different anatomic sites

• Other subheadings
  – Divided by anatomic site, procedure type, condition and description
    • Incision, excision, introduction or Removal, Repair, Revision and/or Reconstruction, Fracture and/or dislocation, Arthrodesis, Amputation

Guidelines

• Types of fracture treatment
  – Closed means the fracture site is not surgically exposed

  – Three methods
    • Without manipulation
    • With manipulation
    • With or without traction
Guidelines

• Types of Fracture Treatment (cont)
  – Open – used when fractured bone is surgically exposed
    • Internal fixation may be used

• Percutaneous skeletal fixation
  – Not open or closed
    • Pin placed across the fracture site

Guidelines

• Traction
  – The application of a pulling force to hold a bone in alignment

• Skeletal
  – Use of internal devices

• Skin
  – Strapping or tape
General

• Not specific to anatomic site

• Incision of soft tissue abscess
  – Associated with deep tissue

• Wound Exploration
  – Traumatic wounds
  – Include surgical exploration/enlargement, debridement, removal of foreign bodies, ligation/coagulation minor blood vessels

General

• Excision Category
  – Biopsy
    • Muscle or Bone

  – Typically includes
    • Local anesthesia
    • Incision
    • Removal of tissue, sutures
General

• Introduction or Removal Category
  – Aspiration, Insertion, Application
    • Removal foreign body muscle/tendon sheath
    • Injections into tendon, ligament, ganglion cyst
    • Aspiration/injection into joint
    • Insertion pins/wires
    • Grafts/Implants

• Grafts
  – Bone
  – Cartilage
  – Fascia Lata
    • Taken from thigh area
  – Tendon
  – Tissue
    • Fat, dermis, fatty tissue from tendon compartment
General

• Other Procedures
• Bone Grafts
  – Based on where graft is obtained
• Free osteocutaneous flaps
  – Based on part of the body flap is taken from
• Monitoring of interstitial fluid pressure

Anatomical Subheadings

• Based on anatomic site

• Divided based on procedure
  – Incision
  – Excision
  – fracture

• Read notes carefully
Spine

• Cervical C1-C7
  – C1 Atlas
  – C2 Axis

• Thoracic T1-T12

• Lumbar L1-L5

Spinal Instrumentation

• Segmental
  – Attachment at each end of repair area and at least one other attachment in the area being repaired

• Non-segmental
  – Attachment of device at each end of the area being repaired
Application of Casts and Strapping

• Use these codes when physician
  – Applies an initial cast/strapping/splint prior to definitive treatment by another physician
  – Applies a subsequent cast, strapping or splint
  – Treats a sprain and doesn’t expect to provide other type of treatment

Endoscopy/Arthroscopy

• Divided by body area
  – Elbow
  – Shoulder
  – Knee
• Surgical endoscopy/arthroscopy includes a diagnostic endoscopy/arthroscopy
• Multiple surgical procedures performed through scope may be reported
• “Separate procedure” – included in more extensive procedures
HCPCS Level II

• Orthotic and Prosthetic
• Basic Orthopedic Supplies
  – Crutches
  – Canes
  – Walkers
  – Traction Devices
  – Wheelchairs
  – Other orthopedic supplies

Modifiers

• 50 – Bilateral
  – RT – right
  – LT – left
• 59 – Distinct Procedural Service
• FA-F9 – Specifies Finger
• TA-T9 – Specifies Toe
The End