

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) V. 6.0 User Manual

May 1997

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Introduction

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes are used for reporting medical services and procedures performed by physicians. Their purpose is to provide a uniform language that will accurately describe medical, surgical, and diagnostic services, thereby providing an effective means for reliable nationwide communication among physicians, patients, and third parties. This system of terminology is the most widely accepted nomenclature for the reporting of physician procedures and services under government and private health insurance programs.

CPT V. 6.0 provides the software to update the CPT files. The software includes all CPT codes to code outpatient services for reimbursement and workload purposes (as determined by the American Medical Association) and the Common Procedure Coding System from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCPCS). These codes may also be utilized to report inpatient services in certain instances.

In addition to the National CPT and HCPCS codes, the VA also uses the following VA specific HCPCS format codes. These codes are not included in the HCPCS or CPT manuals.

W-CODES (VA NATIONAL CODES)

CPT CODE	DESCRIPTION
W0100	GENERAL MEDICAL EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0105	PSYCHIATRY EXAM, PER HOUR, VA FACILITY
W0110	NEUROLOGICAL EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0115	ENT EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0120	OPHTHOLOGY EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0125	AUDIOLOGY EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0130	ORTHOPEDIC EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0135	CARDIOLOGY EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0140	DERMATOLOGY EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0145	NEUROSURGICAL EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0150	GU EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0155	GI EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0160	PULMONARY EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0200	POW EXAM, VA FACILITY, PER HOUR
W0210	AGENT ORANGE EXAM, VA FACILITY
W0220	SOCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SURVEY, PER HOUR
W0230	PTSD EXAM, VA FACILITY, PER HOUR
W5000	GENERAL MEDICAL EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5010	PSYCHIATRIC EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5015	NEUROLOGICAL EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5020	ENT EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5025	OPHTHOLOGY EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY

CPT CODE	DESCRIPTION
W5030	AUDIOLOGY EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5035	ORTHOPEDIC EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5040	CARDIOLOGY EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5045	DERMATOLOGY EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5050	NEUROSURGICAL EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5055	GU EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5060	GI EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5065	PULMONARY EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY
W5220	SOCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SURVEY, PER HOUR, NON-VA FACILITY
W5230	PTSD EXAM, NON-VA FACILITY

Related manuals to the CPT User Manual include the CPT Technical Manual, the CPT Installation Guide, and the CPT Release Notes.

Package Management

The CPT codes are an American Medical Association (AMA) copyrighted product. Their use is governed by the terms of the agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the AMA.

Printing of any CPT information that will be released external to the VA (excluding areas of billing/fee basis processing, administrative management, clinical management including research, and patient coding/summarizing) must include the following notice: "CPT five-digit codes and/or descriptions only are copyright 1988 AMA (or such other date or publication of the work as defined in the Berne Implementation Act of 1988, formerly the Copyright Revision Act of 1976)."

Package Operation

On-line Help

When the format of a response is specific, there usually is a Help message provided for that prompt. Help messages provide lists of acceptable responses or format requirements which provide instruction on how to respond.

A Help message can be requested by typing one or two question marks. For some prompts, the system will list the possible answers from which you may choose. Any time choices appear with numbers, the system will usually accept the number or the name.

Option Documentation

The second portion of the Package Operation Section contains a brief overview of each option followed by an example of the output generated. Each report requires a margin width of 132 columns. The only prompts in each option are device prompts.

CPT Modifiers by Code Range [ICPT MODIFIERS BY RANGE]

This option will sort and list all modifiers by range of CPT codes to which they apply. An abbreviated example of this output, which requires a 132 column margin width, is provided below.

CPT MODIFIERS BY RANGE LIST				APR 7,1997	11:25	PAGE 1
BEGIN	END					
CPT	CPT					INACTIVE
RANGE	RANGE	MODIFIER	NAME	NUMBER		FLAG
10040	69979	20	MICROSURGERY	1		
		22	UNUSUAL PROCEDURAL SERVICES	3		
		26	PROFESSIONAL COMPONENT	7		
		32	MANDATED SERVICES	8		
		47	ANESTHESIA BY SURGEON	9		
		50	BILATERAL PROCEDURE	10		
		51	MULTIPLE PROCEDURES	11		
		52	REDUCED SERVICES	12		
		53	DISCONTINUED PROCEDURE	307		
		54	SURGICAL CARE ONLY	13		
		55	POSTOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT ONLY	14		
		56	PREOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT ONLY	15		
		57	DECISION FOR SURGERY	16		
		58	STAGED OR RELATED PROC BY SAME PHYS DURING POSTOP PERIOD	17		
		59	DISTINCT PROCEDURAL SERVICE	308		
		62	TWO SURGEONS	18		
		66	SURGICAL TEAM	19		
		76	REPEAT PROCEDURE BY SAME PHYSICIAN	20		
		77	REPEAT PROCEDURE BY ANOTHER PHYSICIAN	21		
		78	RETURN TO OP ROOM FOR RELATED PROC DURING POSTOP PERIOD	22		
		79	UNRELATED PROC OR SERVICE BY SAME PHYS DURING POSTOP PERIOD	23		
		80	ASSISTANT SURGEON	24		
		81	MINIMUM ASSISTANT SURGEON	25		
		82	ASSISTANT SURGEON (WHEN QUAL RES SURGEON NOT AVAIL)	26		
		90	REFERENCE (OUTSIDE) LABORATORY	27		
		99	MULTIPLE MODIFIERS	28		
70010	76999	TC	TECHNICAL COMPONENT	35		
	79999	22	UNUSUAL PROCEDURAL SERVICES	3		
		26	PROFESSIONAL COMPONENT	7		
		32	MANDATED SERVICES	8		
		51	MULTIPLE PROCEDURES	11		
		52	REDUCED SERVICES	12		
		53	DISCONTINUED PROCEDURE	307		
		58	STAGED OR RELATED PROC BY SAME PHYS DURING POSTOP PERIOD	17		
		59	DISTINCT PROCEDURAL SERVICE	308		
		62	TWO SURGEONS	18		
		66	SURGICAL TEAM	19		

New CPT Codes [ICPT NEW CPT CODES]

This option will produce a listing of all the new CPT codes that have been added with the most recent CPT update. An abbreviated example of this output, which requires a 132 column margin width, is provided below.

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NEW CPT Codes effective Jun 02, 1997                APR  7,1997  09:36  PAGE 1
CPT CODE  CPT CATEGORY                INACTIVE FLAG
-----
11010      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM
  DEBRIDE SKIN, FX                DEBRIDEMENT INCLUDING REMOVAL OF FOREIGN MATERIAL ASSOCIATED WITH
                                  OPEN FRACTURE(S) AND/OR DISLOCATION(S); SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUES

11011      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM
  DEBRIDE SKIN/MUSCLE, FX        DEBRIDEMENT INCLUDING REMOVAL OF FOREIGN MATERIAL ASSOCIATED WITH
                                  OPEN FRACTURE(S) AND/OR DISLOCATION(S); SKIN, SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE,
                                  MUSCLE FASCIA, AND MUSCLE

11012      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM
  DEBRIDE SKIN/MUSCLE/BONE, FX  DEBRIDEMENT INCLUDING REMOVAL OF FOREIGN MATERIAL ASSOCIATED WITH
                                  OPEN FRACTURE(S) AND/OR DISLOCATION(S); SKIN, SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE,
                                  MUSCLE FASCIA, MUSCLE, AND BONE

11720      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM
  DEBRIDE NAIL, 1-5              DEBRIDEMENT OF NAIL(S) BY ANY METHOD(S); ONE TO FIVE

11721      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM
  DEBRIDE NAIL, 6 OR MORE        DEBRIDEMENT OF NAIL(S) BY ANY METHOD(S); SIX OR MORE

15756      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM
  FREE MUSCLE FLAP, MICROVASC    FREE MUSCLE FLAP WITH OR WITHOUT SKIN GRAFT WITH MICROVASCULAR
                                  ANASTOMOSIS

15757      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM
  FREE SKIN FLAP, MICROVASC     FREE SKIN FLAP WITH MICROVASCULAR ANASTOMOSIS

15758      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM
  FREE FASCIAL FLAP, MICROVASC  FREE FASCIAL FLAP WITH MICROVASCULAR ANASTOMOSIS

20150      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
  EXCISE EPIPHYSEAL BAR         EXCISION OF EPIPHYSEAL BAR, WITH OR WITHOUT AUTOGENOUS SOFT TISSUE
                                  GRAFT OBTAINED THROUGH SAME FASCIAL INCISION

20956      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
  ILIAC BONE GRAFT, MICROVASC    BONE GRAFT WITH MICROVASCULAR ANASTOMOSIS; ILIAC CREST

20957      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
  MT BONE GRAFT, MICROVASC      BONE GRAFT WITH MICROVASCULAR ANASTOMOSIS; METATARSAL

24149      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
  RADICAL RESECTION OF ELBOW    RADICAL RESECTION OF CAPSULE, SOFT TISSUE, AND HETEROTOPIC BONE,
                                  ELBOW, WITH CONTRACTURE RELEASE (SEPARATE PROCEDURE)

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Recently Inactivated CPT Codes [ICPT CPT CODES INACTIVE]

This option will produce a listing of all CPT codes that have been inactivated with the most recent CPT update. An abbreviated example of this output, which requires a 132 column margin width, is provided below.

Recently INACTIVATED CPT Codes effective Jun 02, 1997 APR 7,1997 11:19 PAGE 1
CPT CODE CPT CATEGORY INACTIVE FLAG

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11700      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM          INACTIVE CODE
          SCRAPING OF 1-5 NAILS          DEBRIDEMENT OF NAILS, MANUAL;
                                          FIVE OR LESS

11701      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM          INACTIVE CODE
          SCRAPING OF ADDITIONAL NAILS   DEBRIDEMENT OF NAILS, MANUAL;
                                          EACH ADDITIONAL, FIVE OR LESS

11710      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM          INACTIVE CODE
          SCRAPING OF 1-5 NAILS          DEBRIDEMENT OF NAILS, ELECTRIC GRINDER;
                                          FIVE OR LESS

11711      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM          INACTIVE CODE
          SCRAPING OF ADDITIONAL NAILS   DEBRIDEMENT OF NAILS, ELECTRIC GRINDER;
                                          EACH ADDITIONAL, FIVE OR LESS

15755      INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM          INACTIVE CODE
          MICROVASCULAR FLAP GRAFT       FREE FLAP (MICROVASCULAR TRANSFER)

20960      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM        INACTIVE CODE
          MICROVASCULAR RIB GRAFT        BONE GRAFT WITH MICROVASCULAR ANASTOMOSIS;
                                          RIB

20971      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM        INACTIVE CODE
          BONE-SKIN GRAFT, RIB          FREE OSTEOCUTANEOUS FLAP WITH MICROVASCULAR ANASTOMOSIS;
                                          RIB

25330      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM        INACTIVE CODE
          REVISE WRIST JOINT            ARTHROPLASTY, WRIST;

25331      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM        INACTIVE CODE
          REVISE WRIST JOINT            ARTHROPLASTY, WRIST;
                                          WITH IMPLANT

26552      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM        INACTIVE CODE
          CONSTRUCT THUMB REPLACEMENT   RECONSTRUCTION THUMB WITH TOE

26557      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM        INACTIVE CODE
          CONSTRUCT FINGER REPLACEMENT  TOE TO FINGER TRANSFER;
                                          FIRST STAGE

26558      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM        INACTIVE CODE
          ADDED FINGER SURGERY          TOE TO FINGER TRANSFER;
                                          EACH DELAY
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Revised CPT Codes [ICPT REVISED CPT CODES]

This option will produce a listing of all the CPT codes that have been revised with the most recent CPT update. An abbreviated example of this output, which requires a 132 column margin width, is provided below.

Recently REVISED CPT Codes effective Jun 02, 1997 APR 16,1997 10:33 PAGE 1
 CPT CODE CPT CATEGORY INACTIVE FLAG

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00540      INTRATHORACIC
          ANESTH, CHEST SURGERY      ANESTHESIA FOR THORACOTOMY PROCEDURES INVOLVING LUNGS, PLEURA,
                                     DIAPHRAGM, AND MEDIASTINUM (INCLUDING SURGICAL THORACOSCOPY); NOT
                                     OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

00542      INTRATHORACIC
          ANESTH, RELEASE OF LUNG    ANESTHESIA FOR THORACOTOMY PROCEDURES INVOLVING LUNGS, PLEURA,
                                     DIAPHRAGM, AND MEDIASTINUM (INCLUDING SURGICAL THORACOSCOPY);
                                     DECORTICATION

00544      INTRATHORACIC
          ANESTH, CHEST LINING REMOVAL ANESTHESIA FOR THORACOTOMY PROCEDURES INVOLVING LUNGS, PLEURA,
                                     DIAPHRAGM, AND MEDIASTINUM (INCLUDING SURGICAL THORACOSCOPY);
                                     PLEURECTOMY

00546      INTRATHORACIC
          ANESTH, LUNG,CHEST WALL SURG ANESTHESIA FOR THORACOTOMY PROCEDURES INVOLVING LUNGS, PLEURA,
                                     DIAPHRAGM, AND MEDIASTINUM (INCLUDING SURGICAL THORACOSCOPY);
                                     PULMONARY RESECTION WITH THORACOPLASTY

00548      INTRATHORACIC
          ANESTH, TRACHEA,BRONCHI SURG ANESTHESIA FOR THORACOTOMY PROCEDURES INVOLVING LUNGS, PLEURA,
                                     DIAPHRAGM, AND MEDIASTINUM (INCLUDING SURGICAL THORACOSCOPY);
                                     INTRATHORACIC REPAIR OF TRAUMA TO TRACHEA AND BRONCHI

01916      RADIOLOGICAL PROCEDURES
          ANESTH, HEAD ARTERIOGRAM    ANESTHESIA FOR ARTERIOGRAMS, NEEDLE; CAROTID OR VERTEBRAL

20962      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
          OTHER BONE GRAFT, MICROVASC BONE GRAFT WITH MICROVASCULAR ANASTOMOSIS; OTHER THAN FIBULA, ILIAC
                                     CREST, OR METATARSAL

20969      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
          BONE/SKIN GRAFT, MICROVASC  FREE OSTEOCUTANEOUS FLAP WITH MICROVASCULAR ANASTOMOSIS; OTHER THAN
                                     ILIAC CREST, METATARSAL, OR GREAT TOE

22845      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
          INSERT SPINE FIXATION DEVICE ANTERIOR INSTRUMENTATION; 2 TO 3 VERTEBRAL SEGMENTS

23040      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
          EXPLORATORY SHOULDER SURGERY ARTHROTOMY, GLENOHUMERAL JOINT, FOR INFECTION, WITH EXPLORATION,
                                     DRAINAGE, OR REMOVAL OF FOREIGN BODY

23044      MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM
          EXPLORATORY SHOULDER SURGERY ARTHROTOMY, ACROMIOCLAVICULAR, STERNOCLAVICULAR JOINT, FOR INFECTION,
                                     WITH EXPLORATION, DRAINAGE, OR REMOVAL OF FOREIGN BODY
  
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Glossary

AMA	American Medical Association
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology
CPT Category	Category name associated with a specified CPT code.
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HCPCS	Health Care Financing Administration's Common Procedure Coding System
Modifier	Optional identifier that may alter or enhance the description of a CPT or HCPCS code.
VISTA	Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture