CPT® and RBRVS 2013 Annual Symposium
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Vascular Surgery and Interventional Radiology
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Agenda

Vascular Surgery

Cardiovascular System (Surgery)

• Vascular Injection Procedures
• Transcatheter Procedures
• Endovascular Revascularization (Open or Percutaneous, Transcatheter)
Summary of Changes

Cardiovascular System (Surgery)

- 25 New codes
- 7 Revised codes
- 3 Deleted codes
- 22 New/revised parenthetical statements
- 11 New/revised guidelines
Vascular Injection Procedures

Intravenous

- ▲ 36010 Introduction of catheter, superior or inferior vena cava

Intra-Arterial—Intra-Aortic

- 36120 Introduction of needle or intracatheter; retrograde brachial artery
- ▲ 36140 extremity artery

Moderate sedation (⊗) has been added to CPT codes 36010 and 36140
Diagnostic Studies of Cervicoocerebral Arteries
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
2013 - New Bundled CPT Coding

• RUC Relativity Assessment Workgroup
  – Reviews codes that are reported together more than 75% of the time
  – Prior examples include renal artery selective catheter/imaging, IVC filters, & LE arterial endovascular intervention
  – Multiple carotid radiology S&I codes flagged

• New CPT codes created for 2013
  – Non-selective & selective arterial catheterization
  – Cervical & cerebral carotid/vertebral arteriography
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
2012 - Component Coding Guidelines

- Non-selective vs. Selective catheterization
  - 36200 vs. 36215 through 36218

- Imaging – unilateral vs. bilateral
  - Cervicocerebral arch 75650
  - Cervical carotid 75676 and 75680
  - Cerebral carotid 75665 and 75671
  - External carotid 75660 and 75662
  - Vertebral 75685
Now not for use with aortic arch, carotid, or vertebral catheterization

- **Non-selective vs. Selective catheterization**
  - 36200 vs. 36215 through 36218

- **Imaging – unilateral vs. bilateral**
  - Cervicocerebral arch 75650
  - Cervical carotid 75676 and 75680
  - Cerebral carotid 75665 and 75671
  - External carotid 75660 and 75662
  - Vertebral 75685
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Definitions

• Cervical carotid = Extracranial carotid
  – Carotid artery outside the cranium
  – Extends from aortic arch to skull base

• Cerebral carotid = Intracranial carotid
  – Carotid artery inside the cranium
## Diagnostic Carotid Angiography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36221</td>
<td>Arch aortogram plus non-selective aortic cath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36222</td>
<td>Unilat innom/CCA cath + cerv carotid imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36223</td>
<td>Unilat innom/CCA cath + cerv/cereb carotid imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36224</td>
<td>Unilat ICA cath + cereb carotid imaging (+cervical)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36225</td>
<td>Unilat innominate/subclavian cath + vert imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36226</td>
<td>Unilat vertebral cath + vertebral imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+36227</td>
<td>Add-on external carotid (use w/ 36222-36224)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+36228</td>
<td>Add-on selective ICA/vertebral branch cath+imaging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(max use of 36228 = 4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

36222 thru 36226 include arch imaging (36221), if performed

**Modifier** -50 appropriate for a bilateral evaluation
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
2013 Bundled Coding

Includes:

• Accessing the vessel
• Non-selective aortic and selective innominate, carotid, and vertebral artery catheterization
• Contrast injection(s) of the aortic arch and carotid/vertebral systems (including arterial, capillary, and venous phase, when performed)
• Fluoroscopy
• Radiological supervision and interpretation
• Closure of the arteriotomy by pressure, or application of an arterial closure device
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
2013 Bundled Coding

Excludes:

• Interventional procedures
  – Embolization
  – Angioplasty
  – Endovascular stent placement
• Ultrasound guidance for access (eg, 76937)
• Selective arterial catheterization of vascular families outside the carotid and vertebral arteries
• 3-D rendering (eg, 76376 or 76377)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography

- 2012 Guidelines
  - Catheterization 36200
  - Imaging 75650

- 2013 Guidelines
  - Bundled service 36221

- Description of carotid and/or vertebral arteries without selective catheterization of the great vessels is an arch angiogram
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography

• For reporting purposes, remember that 36221 includes a non-selective aortic catheterization

• Simultaneous aortic arch and abdominal aortography is reported:
  – In 2012: 75650, 75625, and 36200
  – In 2013: 36221, 75625 (no additional 36200)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

• Arch angiography (36221) is bundled into the selective carotid codes (36222-36224)
• Description of carotid arteries without selective catheterization of the great vessels → 36221
• Follow-up imaging without further catheter selection (higher order) is bundled (i.e., no 75774)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

- **36222**
  - Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial carotid imaging

- **36223**
  - Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial & intracranial carotid imaging

- **36224**
  - Selective ICA catheterization + intracranial carotid imaging (includes extracranial carotid)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

36222 - Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial carotid imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid Catheterization + Extracranial Carotid Imaging

- CCA (Common Carotid Artery)
- ICA (Internal Carotid Artery)
- ECA (External Carotid Artery)
- Subclavian
- Vertebral
- Ascending Aorta
- Descending Thoracic Aorta

36222 - Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial carotid imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

36222 - Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial carotid imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

E.g., Bovine arch anatomy

36222 - Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial carotid imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

• 36222
  – Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial carotid imaging

• 36223
  – Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial & intracranial carotid imaging

• 36224
  – Selective ICA catheterization + intracranial carotid imaging (includes extracranial carotid)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

• The only difference between 36222 and 36223 is the absence/presence of intracranial carotid artery imaging
• Both include the same selective arterial catheterization and extracranial carotid imaging

• 36222 → Extracranial
• 36223 → Extracranial AND Intracranial
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

• 36222
  – Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial carotid imaging

• 36223
  – Innominate or CCA catheterization + extracranial & intracranial carotid imaging

• 36224
  – Selective ICA catheterization + intracranial carotid imaging (includes extracranial carotid)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

36224 - ICA selective catheterization + intracranial carotid imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

ICA selective catheterization + intracranial carotid imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

• CPT code 36224
  – Selective catheterization of the ICA
  – Intracranial carotid angiography
  – Extracranial carotid imaging is NOT required
  – However, if extracranial carotid imaging is performed, it is bundled with code description (like the arch aortogram)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Carotid

- Hierarchy of services based on level of selection (36224 > 36223 > 32222)
- Unilateral descriptions so only one of these three codes applicable per side
- Bilateral identical procedures, use modifier -50
- Bilateral procedures with different hierarchies, use modifier -59 on lesser code in the hierarchy
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Example #1

From a femoral artery puncture, the catheter is advanced to the ascending aorta for an arch aortogram. The innominate and then the right common carotid artery is selected. Extracranial and intracranial imaging is performed. The catheter is withdrawn back into the aorta and the left common carotid artery is selected. Extracranial and intracranial imaging is performed.
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Example #1

From a femoral artery puncture, the catheter is advanced to the ascending aorta for an arch aortogram. The innominate and then the right common carotid artery is selected. Extracranial and intracranial imaging is performed. The catheter is withdrawn back into the aorta and the left common carotid artery is selected. Extracranial and intracranial imaging is performed.

Report: 36223 -50
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Example #2

From a femoral artery puncture, the catheter is advanced to the ascending aorta for an arch aortogram. The innominate and then the right common carotid artery is selected. Extracranial and intracranial imaging is performed. The catheter is withdrawn back into the aorta and the left common carotid artery is selected. Only extracranial imaging is performed.
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Example #2

From a femoral artery puncture, the catheter is advanced to the ascending aorta for an arch aortogram. The innominate and then the right common carotid artery is selected. Extracranial and intracranial imaging is performed. The catheter is withdrawn back into the aorta and the left common carotid artery is selected. Only extracranial imaging is performed.

Report: 36223 (right) and 36222 -59 (left)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
External Carotid

• If ECA not selected, 36227 not applicable
• The ECA is ALWAYS selected after the common carotid artery is selected
  – Therefore, CPT code 36227 can only be reported with either 36222, 36223, or 36224
• Further catheter selection (higher order) within the ECA is bundled
• Follow-up imaging within the ECA is bundled (i.e., 75774 not reportable)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
External Carotid

- ECA
- CCA
- Vertebral
- Subclavian
- ICA
- Descending Thoracic Aorta
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
External Carotid

- ECA
- CCA
- Vertebral
- Subclavian
- Ascending Aorta
- ICA
- Descending Thoracic Aorta
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Vertebral

• Arch angiography (36221) is bundled into the selective vertebral codes (36225, 36226)
• Description of vertebral arteries without selection of great vessels → 36221
• Follow-up imaging without further catheter selection (higher order) is bundled (i.e., no 75774)
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Vertebral

• Hierarchy of services based on level of selection (36226 > 36225)
• Only one of these two codes per side
• Bilateral identical procedures, use -50
• Bilateral procedures with different hierarchies, use modifier -59 on ↓ code
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Vertebral

- 36225
  - Innominate or subclavian catheterization + vertebral/basilar imaging

- 36226
  - Vertebral catheterization + vertebral/basilar imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Vertebral

36225 - Innominate or SCA catheterization + vertebral imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Vertebral

36225 - Innominate or SCA catheterization + vertebral imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Vertebral

36225 - Innominate or SCA catheterization + vertebral imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Vertebral

- 36225
  - Innominate or subclavian catheterization + vertebral/basilar imaging

- 36226
  - Vertebral catheterization + vertebral/basilar imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arterial Angiography + Selective Vertebral Cerebrovascular Catheterization + Vertebral Imaging
Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
Arch Angiography + Selective Vertebral

ICA
ICA
ECA
ECA
CCA
CCA
Vertebral
Vertebral
Subclavian
Subclavian

Ascending Aorta

Descending Thoracic Aorta

36226 - Vertebral catheterization + vertebral imaging

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Diagnostic Carotid Angiography
ICA/Vertebral Additional Catheterization

• 36228 - Unilateral selective arterial catheter placement and diagnostic imaging of the initial and each additional intracranial branch of the internal carotid or vertebral arteries

• Further selection within the branch is bundled

• Requires use of either 36224 or 36226

• Maximum use of 36228 is twice per side but requires separate branch off ICA/vertebral

• E.g., MCA cath + imaging is 36224, 36228
2013 Work RVUs
Cardiovascular Surgery

• 36010 work RVU = 2.43
• 36140 work RVU = 2.01
• 36200 work RVU = 3.02
• 36215 work RVU = 4.67
• 36218 work RVU = 1.01
2013 Work RVUs
Cardiovascular Surgery

- 36221 work RVU = 4.17
- 36222 work RVU = 5.53
- 36223 work RVU = 6.00
- 36224 work RVU = 6.50
- 36225 work RVU = 6.00
- 36226 work RVU = 6.50
- 36227 work RVU = 2.09
- 36228 work RVU = 4.25
Transcatheter Procedures

37215  Transcatheter placement of intravascular stent(s), cervical carotid artery, percutaneous; with distal embolic protection

37216  without distal embolic protection

► (Do not report 37215, 37216 in conjunction with 75671, 7568036222-36224 for the treated carotid artery)
Transcatheter Thrombolytic Infusion
Intravascular Thrombolysis 2013 - New Bundled CPT Coding

• RUC Relativity Assessment Workgroup
  – Reviews codes that are reported together more than 75% of the time
  – Prior examples include renal artery selective catheter/imaging, IVC filters, & LE arterial endovascular intervention
  – Thrombolysis procedure and the radiology S&I codes flagged

• New CPT codes created for 2013
  – Bundling of the procedure code and radiology S&I
Intravascular Thrombolysis

- Non-selective and selective catheterization remains separately reportable
- New codes are based on date of service
- Simultaneous deletions
  - Code 37201 (thrombolysis)
  - Codes 37209 and 75900 (catheter exchange)
- No longer applicable with thrombolysis
  - Code 75896 (non-thrombolytic infusions - 37202)
  - Code 75898 (follow-up angio after embolization or non-thrombolytic infusions)
Intravascular Thrombolysis

- Codes based on an entire day of treatment
  - Midnight to midnight time period
- Only **one** of these 4 codes reported per day
- Initiation of a thrombolytic infusion
  - Arterial thrombolytic infusion 37211
  - Venous thrombolytic infusion 37212
- Follow-up day thrombolytic infusion, imaging, exchange of catheter (if performed)
  - Continued therapy for another day 37213
  - Termination of therapy on that day 37214
Intravascular Thrombolysis
2013 Bundled Coding

Includes:

• Institution of thrombolytic infusion
• Radiological supervision and interpretation
• All repeat imaging and catheter exchange(s) on that day of therapy – no matter how many
• Moderate sedation
• Ongoing E/M services on that day related to thrombolysis (excluding initial evaluation for institution of therapy)
Intravascular Thrombolysis
2013 Bundled Coding

Excludes:
• Non-selective and selective catheterization
• Diagnostic imaging
• Initial E&M for institution of therapy
• Endovascular intervention
  – Mechanical thrombectomy
  – Angioplasty, stent, atherectomy
• IVC filter insertion / repositioning / removal
• Ultrasound guidance for vascular access
  – E.g., 76937
Intravascular Thrombolysis

- Start and complete on the same day
  - Either 37211 (arterial) or 37212 (venous)
- Two day course of therapy
  - Either 37211 (arterial) or 37212 (venous) on the first day
  - 37214 on the second day
- Three day course of therapy
  - Either 37211 (arterial) or 37212 (venous) on the first day
  - 37213 on the second day
  - 37214 on the third day
Intravascular Foreign Body Retrieval 2013 - New Bundled CPT Coding

- RUC Relativity Assessment Workgroup
  - Reviews codes that are reported together more than 75% of the time
  - Prior examples include renal artery selective catheter/imaging, IVC filters, & LE arterial endovascular intervention
  - Intravascular foreign body retrieval procedure and the radiology S&I codes flagged
- New CPT code created for 2013
  - Bundling of the procedure code and radiology S&I
37197 Transcatheter retrieval, percutaneous, of intravascular foreign body (eg, fractured venous or arterial catheter), includes radiological supervision and interpretation, and imaging guidance (ultrasound or fluoroscopy), when performed.
Intravascular Foreign Body Retrieval

- Non-selective and selective catheterization remains separately reportable
- New code is based on a combination of procedure code and radiology S&I
- Simultaneous deletions of 37203 / 75961
- Please note - IVC filter removal → 37193
- Includes moderate sedation
- Includes imaging guidance (U/S & fluoro)
Guideline Revision:

When treating multiple vessels within a territory, report each additional vessel using an add-on code, as applicable. Select the base code that represents the most complex service using the following hierarchy of complexity (in descending order of complexity): atherectomy and stent > atherectomy > stent > angioplasty. When treating multiple lesions within the same vessel, report one service that reflects the combined procedures, whether done on one lesion or different lesions, using the same hierarchy.
2013 Work RVUs
Transcatheter Procedures

- 37197 work RVU = 6.29
- 37211 work RVU = 8.00
- 37212 work RVU = 7.06
- 37213 work RVU = 5.00
- 37214 work RVU = 2.74
- 37215 work RVU = 19.68
- 37216 work RVU = 18.95
Thank You!