Managing the Risk of Coding and Documentation for Ulcer Debridement

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CPT 11040/11041

- Deleted from CPT
- Do not use them....EVER

- Replaced by 97597 / 97598
- January 1, 2011
CPT 97602

- Removal of devitalized tissue from wound(s), non-selective debridement, without anesthesia (eg, wet-to-moist dressings, enzymatic, abrasion) including topical application(s), wound assessment, and instruction(s) for ongoing care, per session

- Non sharp debridement

- Providers should not use them....EVER

- For nurses / facility

- No RVU assignment for physician
CPT code based on deepest depth to which you debride

- Dermis
- SubQ
- Muscle/Fascia
- Bone
Debridement of open wound to level of epidermis/dermis total wound surface area less than or equal to 20 square centimeters

Debridement defined as:
- High pressure waterjet with or without suction
- Sharp selective debridement with scissors, scalpel, and forceps

Debridement should involve removal of:
- Fibrin, devitalized epidermis and/or dermis, exudate, debris, biofilm
Examples

Remember TOTAL Wound Surface Area

- One ulcer 4cm x 4cm of dermis removed
  - CPT 97597 one unit

- Two ulcers: first 2cm x 2cm, second 4cm x 4cm of dermis removed
  - CPT 97597 one unit

- Three ulcers: 2cm x 2cm, 3cm x 2cm, 2cm x 2cm of dermis removed
  - CPT 97597 one unit
CPT 97598

- Add-on code to CPT 97597
- To be used if over 20 sq. cm of dermis is removed
- Debridement of open wound to level of epidermis / dermis each additional 20 square centimeters
- Used WITH CPT 97957
- No 51 modifier on CPT 97598 with CPT 97597
- Never to be used alone
Examples

- One ulcer 5 X 5 sq. cm.
  - CPT 97597 one unit
  - CPT 97598 one unit

- Two ulcers: first 4 X 4, second 4 x 3 sq. cm.
  - CPT 97597 one unit
  - CPT 97598 one unit
Examples (Cont.)

- Two ulcers: first 5 x 5, second 5 x 4
  - CPT 97597 one unit
  - CPT 97598 two units

- One ulcer 75 sq. cm.
  - CPT 97597 one unit
  - CPT 97598 three units
CPT 97597/97598

- Fall under Medicare consolidated billing
- Will not get paid if patient is in a facility on a Medicare Part A stay
- Can try to contract with facility....good luck!
CPT 11042/11045

- CPT 11042: Debridement to subcutaneous tissue first 20sq. cm or less total
- CPT 11045: Add-on code: Debridement to subQ each additional 20 sq. cm.
- Includes epidermis and dermis with it
CPT 11043/11046

- CPT 11043: Debridement to muscle/fascia first 20 sq. cm or less total
- 1042: Debridement to subcutaneous tissue first 20 sq. cm or less total
- CPT 11046: Add-on code: Debridement to muscle/fascia each additional 20 sq. cm.
- Includes epidermis and dermis and subQ with it
- Big jump in reimbursement from 11042
- Submit Pathology!
CPT 11044/11047

- **CPT 11044**: Debridement to bone first 20sq. cm or less total
- **CPT 11047**: Add-on code: Debridement to bone each additional 20sq. cm.
- Includes epidermis and dermis and subQ and muscle/fascia with it
- Submit Pathology!
## All Options Together

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CPT 97597</td>
<td>up to 20 sq. cm</td>
<td>Epidermis/Dermis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CPT 97598 each addl. 20 sq. cm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPT 11042</td>
<td>up to 20 sq. cm.</td>
<td>SubQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CPT 11045 each addl. 20 sq. cm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPT 11043</td>
<td>up to 20 sq. cm.</td>
<td>Muscle/Fascia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CPT 11046 each addl. 20 sq. cm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPT 11044</td>
<td>up to 20 sq. cm.</td>
<td>Bone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CPT 11047 each addl. 20 sq. cm.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Choose Correct Code

- Code based on depth of tissue actually debrided, not the depth of the wound
- Sq. cm. used is amount of tissue debrided, not the size of the ulcer
Examples

- Ulcer is 6cm x 5cm to depth of dermis and you debride 4cm x 4cm of tissue to dermis:
  - CPT 97597

- Ulcer is 6cm x 6cm to depth of bone and you debride 4cm x 3cm of it to subQ
  - CPT 11042
Two Ulcers

- If at same depth, one code for total sq. cm. debrided at that depth
- If debrided at different depths then can use two codes
Examples

One ulcer debride 2cm. x 2cm. to dermis and another debride 6cm. x 6cm. to muscle.

CPT 97597 – 59 mod
CPT 11043
CPT 11046
Included in Debridement

- Dressing change
- Local care training
- Topicals applied
Novitas 2017 Part B Physician Fee Schedule
Non-Facility

- CPT 97597: $81.73
- CPT 11042: $126.93
- CPT 11043: $249.05
- CPT 11044: $343.86
- All have Zero day global
Check Your LCD

- CPT 11043 / 11044: Need to send pathology?
- CPT 11043 / 11044: Place of service?
Documentation

- Different plans and different LCD’s may have different requirements
- You are responsible to know
- We’re talking about outpatient documentation requirements
Document

Document medical necessity of debridement AKA why you are doing it....
- Decrease risk of infection
- Promote healing
- Limb salvage
- Medical diagnosis
- Anesthesia, if used
Document

- Wound size(s) in sq. cm.
- Depth of wound
- Square cm. of tissue debrided
- Depth of tissue debrided
- Drainage
- Color
- Absence / presence of necrotic tissue
Vascularity
Op Report
Patient specific goals
Ulcer better or worse?
Document

- Texture
- Temperature
- Condition of surrounding tissue
- Presence or absence of infection
- Location of ulcer
- Presence or absence of undermining/tunneling
Document

- Instrument used
- Dressings used
- Immediate post-debridement care
- Instructions
- Methods of offloading
- Complicating factors/Comorbidities
Document

- HgA1c
- Nutrition
- BMI
- Tobacco Use
- Ability to be NWB
- Consultants
- Neuropathy
- Adherence
Photograph
DIAGNOSIS CODING
Ulcer Options

- **L97** - Non-pressure chronic ulcer of lower limb, not elsewhere classified
  - Diabetic foot ulcers go here!

- **L89** - Pressure ulcer
Stasis Ulcer Options

- **I83.0** - Varicose veins of lower extremities with ulcer

- **I83.2** - Varicose veins of lower extremities with both ulcer and inflammation
Arterial Ulcer Options

I70.23 - Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration

I70.24 - Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration

I70.26 - Atherosclerosis of native arteries of extremities with gangrene
“Wound” versus “Ulcer”

- **S91.0** - Open wound of ankle
- **S91.1** - Open wound of toe without damage to nail
- **S91.2** - Open wound of toe with damage to nail
- **S91.3** - Open wound of foot
Ulcer Options

- **L97** - Non-pressure chronic ulcer of lower limb, not elsewhere classified
  - Diabetic foot ulcers go here!

- **L89** - Pressure ulcer
What type of ulcer is it?

- Pressure Ulcer = ulcer from pressure
- Diabetic Foot Ulcer = ulcer on diabetic patient
- Arterial Ulcer = ulcer from lack of blood

"Diabetic Ulcers v Pressure Ulcers; So, What Do You Call It?", Arthur Stone, DPM and Mary Sieggreen, MSN,CNS,NP,CVN) from the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel
Type 2 diabetic patient with a chronic diabetic left lateral midfoot ulcer with necrosis of muscle. The patient takes insulin on a daily basis.
Type 2 diabetic patient with a chronic diabetic left lateral midfoot ulcer with necrosis of muscle. The patient takes insulin on a daily basis.
L97.423
Non-pressure chronic ulcer of left heel and midfoot with necrosis of muscle
L97 Non-pressure chronic ulcer of lower limb, not elsewhere classified

Includes: chronic ulcer of skin of lower limb NOS
  non-healing ulcer of skin
  non-infected sinus of skin
  trophic ulcer NOS
  tropical ulcer NOS
  ulcer of skin of lower limb NOS

Code first any associated underlying condition, such as:
  any associated gangrene (I96)
  atherosclerosis of the lower extremities (I70.23-, I70.24-, I70.33-, I70.34-, I70.43-, I70.44-, I70.53-, I70.54-, I70.63-, I70.64-, I70.73-, I70.74-)
  chronic venous hypertension (I87.31-, I87.33-)
  postphlebitic syndrome (I87.01-, I87.03-)
  postthrombotic syndrome (I87.01-, I87.03-)
  varicose ulcer (I83.0-, I83.2-)

Excludes2: pressure ulcer (pressure area) (L89.-)
  skin infections (L00-L08)
  specific infections classified to A00-B99
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Feedback / Suggestion:

Submit

Safari

E10.52  Gangrene, with diabetes type 1 angiopathy
E10.61-  Diabetes mellitus, type I, with diabetic arthropathy
E10.62-  Diabetes mellitus, type I, with skin complications
E10.621  Diabetes mellitus, type I, with foot ulcer
E10.622  Diabetes mellitus, type I, with other skin ulcer
E10.65  Diabetes mellitus, type I, with hyperglycemia
E10.8  Diabetes mellitus, type I, with unspecified complications
E10.9  Diabetes mellitus, type I, without complications
E11.4-  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with neurological complications
E11.42  Diabetes mellitus, type 2, with diabetic polyneuropathy
E11.42  Polyneuropathy, diabetic, type 2
E11.5-  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with circulatory complications
E11.52  Gangrene, with diabetes type 2 angiopathy
E11.61-  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with diabetic arthropathy
E11.62-  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with skin complications
E11.621  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with foot ulcer
E11.622  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with other skin ulcer
E11.65  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with hyperglycemia
E11.69  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with other specified complication
E11.8  Diabetes mellitus, type II, with unspecified complications
E11.9  Diabetes mellitus, type II, without complications
E11.6 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other specified complications

E11.61 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic arthropathy

E11.610 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic neuropathic arthropathy

Inclusion Term: Type 2 diabetes mellitus with Charcot’s joints

E11.618 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other diabetic arthropathy

E11.62 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with skin complications

E11.620 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic dermatitis

Inclusion Term: Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic necrobiosis lipoidica

E11.621 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer

Use additional code to identify site of ulcer (L97.4-5, L97.5-)

E11.622 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other skin ulcer

Use additional code to identify site of ulcer (L97.1-L97.9, L98.41-L98.49)

E11.628 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other skin complications

E11.63 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with oral complications

E11.630 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with periodontal disease

E11.631 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other oral complications

E11.64 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hypoglycemia

E11.641 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hypoglycemia with coma

E11.649 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hypoglycemia without coma

E11.65 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperglycemia

E11.69 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other specified complication

Use additional code to identify complication

E11.8 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with unspecified complications
E11.621
Type 2 diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer
E10.9 Type 1 diabetes mellitus without complications

**E11 Type 2 diabetes mellitus**

*Includes: diabetes (mellitus) due to insulin secretory defect*
- diabetes NOS
- insulin resistant diabetes (mellitus)

*Use additional code to identify control using:*
- insulin (Z79.4)
- oral antidiabetic drugs (Z79.64)
- oral hypoglycemic drugs (Z79.64)

*Excludes:1 diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition (E08-)*
- drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus (E09-)
- gestational diabetes (O24.4-)
- perinatal diabetes mellitus (P70.2)
- postpancreatectomy diabetes mellitus (E13.7)
- postprocedural diabetes mellitus (E13.7)
- secondary diabetes mellitus NEC (E13.7)
- type 1 diabetes mellitus (E10-)

**E11.0 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperosmolarity**
- E11.00 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperosmolarity without nonketotic hyperosmolar coma (NKHHC)
- E11.01 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperosmolarity with coma

**E11.2 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with kidney complications**
- E11.21 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic nephropathy
  *Inclusion Term: Type 2 diabetes mellitus with intercapillary glomerulosclerosis*
  *Type 2 diabetes mellitus with intracapillary glomerulosclerosis*
  *Type 2 diabetes mellitus with Kimmelstiel-Wilson disease*
- E11.22 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic chronic kidney disease
  *Use additional code to identify stage of chronic kidney disease (N18.1-N18.6)*
- E11.29 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other diabetic kidney complication
  *Inclusion Term: Type 2 diabetes mellitus with renal tubular degeneration*

**E11.3 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic complications**
- E11.31 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy
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**ICD-10 Tabular List**

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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Z79.0 | Long term (current) use of anticoagulants and antithrombtics/antiplatelets  <br> *Excludes2*: long term (current) use of aspirin (Z79.82)  
Z79.01 Long term (current) use of anticoagulants  
Z79.02 Long term (current) use of antithrombtics/antiplatelets  
Z79.1 | Long term (current) use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAID)  <br> *Excludes2*: long term (current) use of aspirin (Z79.82)  
Z79.2 | Long term (current) use of antibiotics  
Z79.3 | Long term (current) use of hormonal contraceptives  
  *Inclusion Term*: Long term (current) use of birth control pill or patch  
Z79.4 | Long term (current) use of insulin  
Z79.5 | Long term (current) use of steroids  
  Z79.51 Long term (current) use of inhaled steroids  
Z79.52 | Long term (current) use of systemic steroids  
Z79.8 | Other long term (current) drug therapy  
  Z79.81 | Long term (current) use of agents affecting estrogen receptors and estrogen levels  
  *Code first, if applicable:*  
  malignant neoplasm of breast (C50-)  
Z79.81 | Long term (current) use of agents affecting estrogen receptors and estrogen levels  
  *Code first, if applicable:*  
  malignant neoplasm of prostate (C61)
DFU Coding

Type 2 diabetic patient with chronic diabetic left foot lateral midfoot ulcer with necrosis of muscle. The patient takes insulin on a daily basis.

- E11.621  Type 2 diabetes mellitus with left foot ulcer
- Z79.4  Long term (current) use of insulin
- L97.423  Non-pressure chronic ulcer of left heel and midfoot with necrosis of muscle
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICD 9</th>
<th>ICD 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Midfoot ulcer in Type 2 diabetic</td>
<td>Chronic, non-pressure left midfoot ulcer with necrosis of muscle in a type 2 diabetic with long term insulin use</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARTERIAL ULCERS
PAD

- I70.231 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of thigh
- I70.232 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of calf
- I70.233 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of ankle
- I70.234 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of heel and midfoot
- I70.235 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of other part of foot

Use additional code to identify severity of ulcer (L97.-)
PAD

- I70.241 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of thigh
- I70.242 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of calf
- I70.243 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of ankle
- I70.244 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of heel and midfoot
- I70.245 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of other part of foot

Use additional code to identify severity of ulcer (L97.-)
Gangrene

- I70.261 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of extremities with gangrene, right leg
- I70.262 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of extremities with gangrene, left leg
- I70.263 Atherosclerosis of native arteries of extremities with gangrene, bilateral legs

Use additional code to identify the severity of any ulcer (L97.-, L98.49-), if applicable
89 year old non-diabetic nursing home patient with unstageable right heel pressure ulcer
ICD-10 Quick Index

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>ICD-9</th>
<th>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R29.2</td>
<td>Abnormal reflex (e.g., knee, Achilles, or plantar foot)</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S80.51-</td>
<td>Abrasion (ankle)</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S90.51-</td>
<td>Abrasion (ankle), (also code L08.89 or L08.9) with infection</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S90.81-</td>
<td>Abrasion (foot)</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S90.81-</td>
<td>Abrasion (foot) (also code L08.89 or L08.9) with infection</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S80.81-</td>
<td>Abrasion (lower leg)</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S80.81-</td>
<td>Abrasion (lower leg), (also code L08.89 or L08.9) with infection</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S90.41-</td>
<td>Abrasion (toe)</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S90.41-</td>
<td>Abrasion (toe) (also code L08.89 or L08.9) with infection</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
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<tr>
<td>M86.17-</td>
<td>Abscess (bone) (acute), ankle and foot</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
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<tr>
<td>M86.19</td>
<td>Abscess (bone) (acute), multiple sites</td>
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<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
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<tr>
<td>M86.16-</td>
<td>Abscess (bone) (acute), tibia and fibula</td>
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<tr>
<td>M86.67-</td>
<td>Abscess (bone) (chronic), ankle and foot</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
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<td>M86.69</td>
<td>Abscess (bone) (chronic), multiple sites</td>
<td>[ icd-9 ]</td>
<td>Show ICD-10 Shortcut</td>
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- ICD-10-CM Documentation Library
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Feedback / Suggestion:

Submit
L89.60 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel
L89.600 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, unstageable
L89.601 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 1
  Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 1
  Pressure pre-ulcer skin changes limited to persistent focal edema, unspecified heel
L89.602 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 2
  Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 2
  Pressure ulcer with abrasion, blister, partial thickness skin loss involving epidermis and/or dermis, unspecified heel
L89.603 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 3
  Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 3
  Pressure ulcer with full thickness skin loss involving damage or necrosis of subcutaneous tissue, unspecified heel
L89.604 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 4
  Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 4
  Pressure ulcer with necrosis of soft tissues through to underlying muscle, tendon, or bone, unspecified heel
L89.609 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, unspecified stage
  Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel NOS
  Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, unspecified stage
L89.61 Pressure ulcer of right heel
L89.610 Pressure ulcer of right heel, unstageable
L89.611 Pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 1
  Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 1
  Pressure pre-ulcer skin changes limited to persistent focal edema, right heel
L89.612 Pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 2
  Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 2
  Pressure ulcer with abrasion, blister, partial thickness skin loss involving epidermis and/or dermis, right heel
L89.613 Pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 3
  Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 3
  Pressure ulcer with full thickness skin loss involving damage or necrosis of subcutaneous tissue, right heel
L89.614 Pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 4
L89.610
Pressure ulcer of right heel, unstageable
Managing the Risk of Coding and Documentation for Ulcer Debridement

September 13, 2017
Resources

Resources

- Kesselman, P., DPM. (September, 2013). Wound care billing update, Podiatry Management pg 53-59
- Noridian Medicare, Wound care and debridement – Provided by physician, NPP or as incident-to services, https://www.noridianmedicare.com/cgi-bin/coranto/viewnews.cgi?id=EFFZFZyyEpAJGDJCxF&tmpl=part_a_viewnews&style=part_ab_viewnews