

MEMORANDUM

November 15, 2012

TO: Program Directors and Residents

FROM: Council on Podiatric Medical Education

SUBJECT: Proper Logging of Surgical Procedures

By conference call in October 2012, members of the Council's Residency Review Committee (RRC) and the American Board of Podiatric Surgery's Residency Training Committee reviewed Appendix B: Surgical Procedure Categories and Code Numbers in CPME 320, *Standards and Requirements for Approval of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies*. The committees reviewed the Appendix with the intention to update the October 2007 surgical logging memo and provide program directors and residents additional updated information regarding logging surgical procedures, thereby decreasing the incidence of procedure miscategorization and fragmentation. Based on this review and common logging issues identified by CPME on-site reviewers and CPME's RRC, the following clarifications are made:

For the procedure codes listed below, the program director must review each entry to determine proper usage.

- 1.13 other osseous digital procedure not listed above
- 2.3.10 other first ray procedure not listed above
- 3.14 other soft tissue procedures not listed above (limited to the foot)
- 4.18 other osseous procedures not listed (distal to the tarsometatarsal joint)
- 5.1.9 other elective reconstructive rearfoot/ankle soft-tissue surgery not listed above
- 5.2.11 other elective reconstructive rearfoot/ankle osseous surgery not listed above
- 5.3.7 other non-elective reconstructive rearfoot/ankle soft tissue surgery not listed above
- 5.4.8 other non-elective reconstructive rearfoot/ankle osseous surgery not listed above

Category 1: Digital Surgery (lesser toe or hallux)

~A resident may only log **one** procedure per toe (the Procedure Note may reflect additional procedures performed) and no more than **one** resident may claim a first assistant on a single toe.

1.6 phalangeal osteotomy

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 2.1.1 bunionectomy (partial ostectomy/Silver procedure) – (use 2.1.3 bunionectomy with phalomy)

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- 2.1.2 bunionectomy with capsulotendon balancing procedure – (use 2.1.3 bunionectomy with phalangeal osteotomy)
- 2.1.3 bunionectomy with phalangeal osteotomy
- 2.1.7 metatarsophalangeal joint (MPJ) fusion
- 2.1.8 MPJ implant (with phalangeal implantation)
- 2.2.2 joint salvage with phalangeal osteotomy (Kessel-Bonney, enclavement)
- 2.2.6 MPJ fusion
- 2.2.7 MPJ implant (with phalangeal implantation)
- 2.3.4 amputation

~ **May** be used as an “add on” in conjunction with:

- 2.1.4 bunionectomy with distal first metatarsal osteotomy
- 2.1.5 bunionectomy with first metatarsal base or shaft osteotomy
- 2.1.6 bunionectomy with first metatarsocuneiform fusion
- 2.1.8 MPJ implant (when used, a metatarsal component implantation only)
- 2.1.9 MPJ arthroplasty
- 2.2.1 cheilectomy
- 2.2.3 joint salvage with distal metatarsal osteotomy
- 2.2.4 joint salvage with first metatarsal shaft or base osteotomy
- 2.2.5 joint salvage with first metatarsocuneiform fusion
- 2.2.7 MPJ implant (when used, a metatarsal component implantation only)
- 2.2.8 MPJ arthroplasty
- 2.3.1 tendon transfer/lengthening/capsulotendon balancing procedure
- 2.3.2 osteotomy (e.g., dorsiflexory)
- 2.3.3 metatarsocuneiform fusion (other than for hallux valgus or hallux limitus)
- 2.3.5 management of osseous tumor/neoplasm (with or without bone graft)
- 2.3.7 open management of fracture or MPJ dislocation
- 2.3.8 corticotomy/callus distraction
- 2.3.9 revision/repair of surgical outcome (e.g., non-union, hallux varus)
- 2.3.10 other first ray procedure not listed above (**only** as indicated)

1.8 amputation

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 1.10 management of bone/joint infection
- 2.3.4 amputation
- 2.3.6 management of bone/joint infection (with or without bone graft)

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- 3.8 incision and drainage/wide debridement of soft tissue infection (including plantar space)
- 4.4 metatarsal head resection (single or multiple)
- 4.10 amputation (lesser ray, transmetatarsal amputation)

1.10 management of bone/joint infection

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 1.8 amputation
- 3.8 incision and drainage/wide debridement of soft tissue infection (including plantar space)

Category 2: First Ray Surgery

~ The soft tissue component of **all First Ray Surgery** repair is inclusive and is **not** separately claimed as an additional procedure in all subcategories

Hallux Valgus Surgery

~ Osteotomy (Akin) of the proximal phalanx treatment, see above in **Digital Surgery**

Hallux Limitus Surgery

~ All of these procedures **shall be inclusive** and count as **one First Ray Surgery** procedure

~ A resident may only log one 2.2.1-2.2.8 procedure per foot and no more than one resident may claim a first assistant procedure per foot

Other First Ray Surgery

2.3.4 amputation

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 2.3.6 management of bone/joint infection (with or without bone graft)
- 3.8 incision and drainage/wide debridement of soft tissue infection (including plantar space)

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2.3.6 management of bone/joint infection (with or without bone graft)

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 1.8 amputation
- 2.3.4 amputation
- 3.8 incision and drainage/wide debridement of soft tissue infection (including plantar space)

Category 3: Other Soft Tissue Foot Surgery:

3.1 excision of ossicle/sesamoid

- ~ **May not** be used in conjunction with **First Ray Surgery**
- ~ **May not** be used in conjunction with **Other Osseous Foot Surgery**
- ~ Examples: os peroneum, os tibiale externum, os vesalianum

3.4 plantar fasciotomy

- ~ **May include** open or endoscopic approach
- ~ TOPAZ and PRP injection are logged as 6.14
- ~ Includes localized lipectomy or soft tissue excisions and includes the heel spur (exostectomy) resection
- ~ **May not** be claimed as **Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle Surgery**
- ~ Baxter nerve release is included

3.5 lesser MPJ capsulotendon balancing

- ~ **Excludes** percutaneous tenotomy/capsulotomy
- ~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 1.3 arthroplasty (interphalangeal joint [IPJ])
- 1.4 implant (IPJ)
- 1.7 fusion (IPJ)
- 3.6 tendon repair, lengthening, or transfer involving the forefoot (including digital flexor digitorum longus transfer)
- 4.2 lesser MPJ arthroplasty
- 4.3 bunionectomy of the fifth metatarsal without osteotomy
- 4.5 lesser MPJ implant

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- 4.6 central metatarsal osteotomy
- 4.7 bunionectomy of the fifth metatarsal with osteotomy

3.6 tendon repair, lengthening, or transfer involving the forefoot (including digital flexor digitorum longus transfer)

- ~ **May not** be claimed as an additional procedure in conjunction with **Digital Surgery**
- ~ **One** procedure per toe, **one** procedure per subluxed MTPJ repair inclusive of capsule/tendon balancing, osteotomy, tendon transfer, plantar plate repair, etc.
- ~ **May not** be used if percutaneous

3.7 open management of dislocation (MPJ/tarsometatarsal)

- ~ **May** be claimed as an additional procedure in conjunction with **Digital Surgery**, if extensive in nature, i.e. plantar plate repair, complete degloving, etc.
- ~ **May not** be used if percutaneous
- ~ **One** procedure per toe, **one** procedure per subluxed MTPJ repair inclusive of capsule/tendon balancing, osteotomy, tendon transfer, plantar plate repair, etc.

3.8 incision and drainage/wide debridement of soft tissue infection (including plantar space)

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 1.8 amputation
- 1.10 management of bone/joint infection
- 2.3.4 amputation
- 2.3.6 management of bone/joint infection (with or without bone graft)
- 4.4 metatarsal head resection (single or multiple)
- 4.10 amputation (lesser ray, transmetatarsal amputation)
- 4.11 management of bone/joint infection distal to the tarsometatarsal joints (with or without bone graft)
- 5.4.6 management of bone/joint infection (with or without bone graft)
- 5.4.7 amputation proximal to the tarsometatarsal joints

~ This is inclusive of distal plantar space infection and therefore may not be claimed as **Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle Surgery**

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3.9 plantar fasciectomy

- ~ Includes localized lipectomy or soft tissue excisions and includes the heel spur (exostectomy) resection
- ~ **May not** be claimed as **Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle Surgery**
- ~ TOPAZ and PRP injection are logged as 6.14
- ~ Baxter nerve release is included

3.10 excision of soft tissue tumor/mass of the foot (without reconstructive surgery)

- ~ Examples: Excision of a ganglion cyst in the foot, sinus tarsi decompression
- ~ Excision of verrucae or other skin lesion is **excluded** (use 6.2)

3.12 plastic surgery techniques (including skin graft, skin plasty, flaps, syndactylization, desyndactylization, and debulking procedures limited to the forefoot)

- ~ Excludes synthetic grafts (use 6.7)
- ~ Excludes elliptical or wedge excisions
- ~ Full documentation in the Procedure Note to justify the extent of 3.12 is required
- ~ **May** be used in conjunction with **Digital Surgery** and in conjunction with 3.5 (lesser MPJ capsulotendon balancing), when extensive, such as to correct severe digital deformities, i.e. Muir-Ruiz

3.13 microscopic nerve/vascular repair (forefoot only)

- ~ Requires the use of microscopic equipment

3.14 other soft tissue procedures not listed above (limited to the foot)

- ~ Harvesting of split thickness skin grafts (STSG) from any source (i.e., thigh or leg) and application of the graft to the foot or ankle should be logged under this code
- ~ Procedure Note should identify from where the graft was harvested and the size of the graft
- ~ The harvesting and application count as **one** procedure

3.15 excision of soft-tissue tumor/mass of the ankle (without reconstructive surgery)

- ~ Example: Excision of ganglion cyst at the level of the ankle

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3.16 external neurolysis/decompression (including tarsal tunnel)

~ Multiple nerve decompressions of the same extremity are logged as **one** procedure

Category 4: Other Osseous Foot Surgery:

~ **One procedure per metatarsal. Exceptions are noted below.**

4.1 partial ostectomy (including the talus and calcaneus)

~ **May** include calcaneal ostectomies, i.e. simple Haglund's excision, retrocalcaneal exostectomy and resection of os trigonum (see 4.19 below)

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 3.4 plantar fasciotomy if associated with plantar calcaneal exostosis (see 3.4 above)
- 3.9 plantar fasciectomy if associated with plantar calcaneal exostosis (see 3.9 above)
- 4.2 lesser MPJ arthroplasty
- 4.5 lesser MPJ implant
- 4.6 central metatarsal osteotomy
- 4.7 bunionectomy of the fifth metatarsal with osteotomy (if distal metatarsal related)

4.2 lesser MPJ arthroplasty

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 4.3 bunionectomy of the fifth metatarsal without osteotomy
- 4.4 metatarsal head resection (single or multiple)
- 4.5 lesser MPJ implant
- 4.6 central metatarsal osteotomy
- 4.7 bunionectomy of the fifth metatarsal with osteotomy

4.4 metatarsal head resection (single or multiple)

~ Pan-metatarsal head resections **are** considered as **one** procedure

4.8 open management of lesser metatarsal fracture(s)

~ Repair of multiple metatarsal fractures is logged as individual procedures

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4.10 amputation (lesser ray, transmetatarsal amputation)

- ~ Transmetatarsal amputation is considered as **one** procedure
- ~ Lesser ray amputation **includes** the amputation of the toe(s) and metatarsal(s) segment(s)
- ~ **Includes** the Incision and drainage

4.13 open management of tarsometatarsal fracture/dislocation

- ~ Claimed as one procedure for repair of the metatarsal cuneiform and cuboid joints. Also inclusive of the first metatarsal cuneiform joint

4.14 multiple metatarsal osteotomy management of metatarsus adductus

- ~ One procedure for the correction of metatarsus adductus (independent of the number of osteotomies performed)

4.15 tarsometatarsal fusion

- ~ Fusion of the tarsometatarsal joints is **one** procedure

4.19 detachment/reattachment of Achilles tendon with partial ostectomy

- ~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

- 4.1 partial ostectomy (including talus and calcaneus)
- 5.1.6 ligament or tendon augmentation/supplementation/restoration
- 5.3.1 repair of acute tendon injury

Category 5: Reconstructive Rearfoot/Ankle Surgery:

~ The rule of thumb to follow when logging ankle procedures is, "an ankle is an ankle." This means that all procedures performed within a single case must be logged as a single procedure, even if one could log multiple procedures if they were performed at different times. Exceptions are noted below.

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Elective – Soft tissue:

5.1.1 plastic surgery techniques involving the midfoot, rearfoot, or ankle

~ **May not** include skin plasty repair that utilizes just ellipses/wedges. Documentation of details in the Procedure Note is required

5.1.2 tendon transfer involving the midfoot, rearfoot, ankle, or leg

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

5.1.5 delayed repair of ligamentous structures

5.1.6 ligament or tendon augmentation/supplementation/restoration

~ **Does not** include digital tendon transfers i.e., FDL, Hibbs procedure etc.

5.1.3 tendon lengthening involving the midfoot, rearfoot, ankle, or leg

~ **May** include percutaneous or “stab” type lengthenings (e.g., percutaneous tendo Achilles lengthening)

~ **May not** include digital tendon transfers i.e., FDL, Hibbs procedure etc.

5.1.5 delayed repair of ligamentous structures

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

5.1.2 tendon transfer involving the midfoot, rearfoot, ankle or leg

5.1.6 ligament or tendon augmentation/supplementation/restoration

5.1.6 ligament or tendon augmentation/supplementation/restoration

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

5.1.2 tendon transfer involving the midfoot, rearfoot, ankle or leg

5.1.5 delayed repair of ligamentous structures

~ **May not** include digital tendon transfers i.e., FDL, Hibbs procedure etc. (see 3.6 above)

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5.1.7 open synovectomy of the rearfoot/ankle

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with:

5.2.1 operative arthroscopy

5.2.7 open management of talar dome lesion (with or without osteotomy)

5.2.8 ankle arthrotomy with removal of loose body or other osteochondral debridement

Elective – Osseous:

5.2.1 operative arthroscopy

~ **May not** be claimed as a diagnostic arthroscopy or if the arthroscopy results in an “open” procedure.

~ **May not** be claimed in conjunction with:

5.1.7 open synovectomy of the rearfoot/ankle

5.2.7 open management of talar dome lesion (with or without osteotomy)

5.2.8 ankle arthrotomy with removal of loose body or other osteochondral debridement

5.2.4 midfoot, rearfoot, or ankle fusion

~ multiple procedures count as **one** procedure

~ Examples: triple arthrodesis, pan talar arthrodesis, talonavicular with a calcaneocuboid arthrodesis are all logged as **one** procedure

5.2.5 midfoot, rearfoot or tibial osteotomy

~ **May not** be claimed in conjunction with:

5.2.4 midfoot, rearfoot or ankle fusion

5.2.7 open management of talar dome lesion (with or without osteotomy)

5.2.9 ankle implant

~ **May** be claimed when an osteotomy was done to correct RRA deformity

5.2.7 open management of talar dome lesions (with or without osteotomy)

~ **Includes:**

5.2.1 operative arthroscopy

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5.2.4 midfoot, rearfoot, or ankle fusion

5.2.8 ankle arthrotomy with removal of loose body or other osteochondral debridement

~ **Includes:**

5.2.1 operative arthroscopy

5.2.4 midfoot, rearfoot, or ankle fusion

Non-Elective – Soft Tissue:

5.3.2 repair of acute ligament injury

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with fracture repair

~ **Claim** only **one** procedure per foot/ankle

5.3.6 open repair of dislocation (proximal to the tarsometatarsal joints)

~ **May not** be used in conjunction with fracture repair

~ **Claim** only **one** procedure per foot/ankle

Non-Elective – Osseous:

5.4.1 open repair of adult midfoot fracture

~ **Claim** only **one** procedure per foot

5.4.2 open repair of adult rearfoot fracture

~ **Claim** only **one** procedure per foot

5.4.3 open repair of adult ankle fracture

~ **Claim** only **one** procedure per ankle

5.4.4 open repair of pediatric rearfoot/ankle fracture or dislocation

~ **Claim** only **one** procedure per foot/ankle

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Although not a surgical category, the RRC determined the following related to **Category 6: Other Podiatric Procedures** (these procedures **cannot** be counted toward the minimum procedure requirements):

For a PMSR, 150 of the 300 podiatric surgical cases may come from procedures logged in category 6 (6.1-6.8 only); the remainder must come from categories 1-5.

For a PMSR/RRA, the 300 podiatric surgical cases may come only from categories 1-5.