



Specialty Coding Professional – Cardiology (SCP-CA)

As a service to candidates, this outline is designed to provide representative examples of the coding and billing issues covered on the SCP-CA examination. While it should serve as a guide for your test preparation, you should not consider it inclusive of every procedure or issue addressed within the examination.

Examination Outline

Evaluation and Management Scenario Coding

- 1995 and 1997 guidelines (will be provided for reference)
- Documentation requirements for the cardiovascular single organ system exam
- Consultations vs. referrals
- Follow-up consultations
- Medical decision making
- Separate procedures
- Global days

Surgery

- Surgical procedures (e.g., pacemaker insertion)
- Selective and Non-selective catheterization procedures (36000-36248)
- Placement of new ventricular lead, pacemaker
- Implantation of a dual-chamber implantable cardioverter-defibrillator
- Conversion of a dual chamber pacemaker to a biventricular pacemaker
- Selective renal angiography and renal intervention

HCPCS Level II

- Procedure codes related to Cardiology (e.g., G0290 and G0291)

Section Five - Radiology

- Nuclear radiology codes related to Cardiology (e.g., 78460)
- "First-pass" codes
- SPECT study

Laboratory

- Panel coding; glucose testing and Protime testing
- Coumadin clinic lab tests

Medicine

- Cardiology diagnostic testing
- Modifier -26 and global service codes
- PTCA

- Cardiac catheterization
- Echocardiograms
- EKGs
- PV services
- Pacemaker analysis
- Swan Ganz catheterization
- Coronary angiography
- Holter monitors

Modifiers

- Anatomical modifiers
- Stopped procedure
- Catheterization in the same session as an intervention

ICD-9 Coding

- Heart valve replacement
- Claim appeals process, time limit
- CCI methodology and Medicare patients
- Category III codes
- Rhythm related conditions (i.e. bradycardia, A. Fib, etc.)
- Hypertension related
- Ischemic disease related
- Status post conditions