

Hospital Service Coding

Effective January 1, 2010

Physician Status	Patient Location	Code Range to Report - Select based on level documented*			
Any physician sees patient in:	ER	ER (99281-99285)			

Physician Status	Patient Location	Code Range to Report - Select based on level documented*				
		Under 8 hours	Over 8 hrs with discharge	Over 8 hrs no discharge	2nd+ day no discharge	Discharge on subsequent day from admit
Supervising Physician sees/admits patient in:	Observation	OBS (99218-99220)	OBS (99234-99236)	OBS (99218-99220)	Outpt EM (99211-99215)	OBS (99217)
	Inpatient	Inpatient EM (99221-99223) (Use the -AI modifier on the initial inpatient code for Medicare.)	Inpt/OBS (99234-99236)	Inpt (99221-99223)	Subsequent Hospital Visit (99231-99233) or Init Inpt if add'l H&P documented and pt was in Obs the day prior (99221-99223)	Inpt (99238-99239)

Physician Status	Patient Location	Code Range to Report - Select based on level documented*			
Consulting Physician sees patient in:	ER	Outpatient Consult (99241-99245)			
	ER Alt**	ER (99281-99285)			
	OBS	Outpatient Consult (99241-99245)			
	OBS Alt**	Outpatient E/M (99201-99215)			
	Inpatient	Inpatient Consult (99251-99255)			
	Inpatient Alt**	Inpatient E/M (99221-99223)			

*Bill code with -57 modifier when decision for major surgery on date of or date prior to surgery that you are to perform.

**Alternative billing is provided under consultation coding options for those payers, such as Medicare, which are no longer accepting consultation codes for consultation services.

Hierarchy of billing when a patient is seen in multiple locations on the same day.

- 1 Inpatient
- 2 Observation
- 3 ER
- 4 Office

Note: Last place of service patient seen for the same condition/problem on date of service drives selection.

Exception: Can bill Critical Care on same day as another separately identifiable EM service.

Other exceptions: see CPT guidelines and/or Medicare Claims Processing Manual Pub 100-04; Chapter 12, Section 30.6

Sources: AMA CPT 2010

Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 12, Section 30.6

Contact Valerie Rock, CPC, ACS-EM for preventive auditing and training assistance.
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