

Possible Billing Codes for use with the Agee WristJack® External Fixation System

Effective Jan. 1, 2007 there were some significant changes made to the CPT and APC codes relevant to the treatment of distal radius fractures. The CPT codes **23611** ("Percutaneous skeletal fixation of distal radius fracture, with or without external fixation") and **25620** ("Open treatment of distal radius fracture, with or without internal or external fixation") have been eliminated entirely. They have been replaced with four new codes.

CPT 25606--"Percutaneous skeletal fixation of distal radial fracture or epiphyseal separation"

CPT 25607--"Open treatment of distal radial **extra**-articular fracture or epiphyseal separation, with internal fixation"

CPT 25608--"Open treatment of distal radial **intra**-articular fracture or epiphyseal separation; with internal fixation of **two fragments**"

CPT 25609--"Open treatment of distal radial **intra**-articular fracture or epiphyseal separation; with internal fixation of **three or more fragments**"

CPT 20690--"Application of a uniplane (pins and wires in one plane); unilateral external fixation system." This code should be used if the only procedure is application of the WristJack. If a percutaneous or open fixation of the fracture fragments is performed in addition to the application of the WristJack, use the appropriate code from the previous four **and** use this code. This code is **Modifier 51 exempt**.

CPT 20900--"Bone graft, any donor area; minor or small."

CPT 20694--"Removal, under anesthesia, of external fixation system."

If an ulnar styloid fracture is treated in conjunction with the treatment of a distal radius fracture, use CPT codes 25651 (percutaneous skeletal fixation of ulnar styloid fracture) or 25652 (Open treatment of ulnar styloid fracture) in conjunction with CPT codes 25606–25609 and/or 20690.

DME codes: Can be used by a facility that has a DME license.

L3982--"Upper extremity fracture orthosis, pre-fabricated, allows for fitting and adjustment."

Questions? Please call HBL at 888-974-7852 or visit the website of the American Hospital Association at www.ahacentraloffice.org. You can submit your coding questions to them directly.

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