Reader Question: Look to EMG for Quantitative Motor Unit Potential Analysis

Question: What is the CPT code for quantitative motor unit potential analysis?

New York Subscriber

Answer: No CPT code accurately describes this test, but this procedure is similar to a needle EMG test. Possible codes to look at are:

the extremity EMG codes (95860, Needle electromyography; one extremity with or without related paraspinal areas; 95861 ... two extremities with or without related paraspinal areas; 95863 ... three extremities with or without related paraspinal areas; or 95864 ... four extremities with or without related paraspinal areas)

the single fiber electrode needle EMG code 95872 (Needle electromyography using single fiber electrode, with quantitative measurement of jitter, blocking and/or fiber density, any/all sites of each muscle studied).

The best strategy is to ask the provider if these CPT code descriptions match the services provided. Otherwise, you may need to use unlisted-procedure code 95999 (Unlisted neurological or neuromuscular diagnostic procedure).

Be on the look out: You'll find new CPT codes coming in 2005 for central motor evoked potential testing. (See next month’s edition of Physical Medicine & Rehab Coding Alert.)

- You Be the Coder and Reader Questions were reviewed by Marvel Hammer, RN, CPC, CHCO, owner of MJH Consulting in Denver