

2024 RESOURCES

Dermatology Procedures in Primary Care

Removal of Sutures/Staples

- Suture/Staple removal (2023)
 - 15853: remove sutures or staples without anesthesia
 - 15854: remove sutures AND staples without anesthesia
- Any physician. No “-25” modifier is needed, just add code on.
- No wRVUs for these two codes. Is OK to use the “nurse visit” 99211 (0.18 wRVU) if you did NOT do the procedure (10d global)

Simple Repair – Location and Sum of Lengths

Simple repair of wounds to scalp, neck, axilla, external genitalia, trunk, arms, legs, hands or feet

- **I2001** 2.5cm or less **\$86/wRVU 0.84**
- **I2002** 2.6cm to 7.5cm **\$105/wRVU 1.14**
- **I2004** 7.6cm to 12.5cm **\$123/wRVU 1.44**
- **I2005** 12.6cm to 20 **\$164/wRVU 1.44**
- **I2006** 20.1cm to 30cm **\$189/wRVU 2.39**
- **I2007** over 30cm **\$215/wRVU 2.90**

-25 and E&M if needed
Add up lengths

Simple repair of wounds of face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips

- **I2011** 2.5cm or less **\$103/wRVU 1.07**
- **I2013** 2.6cm to 5cm **\$107/wRVU 1.22**
- **I2014** 5.1cm to 7.5cm **\$132/wRVU 1.57**
- **I2015** 7.6cm to 12.5cm **\$159/wRVU 1.98**
- **I2016** 12.6cm to 20cm **\$202/wRVU 2.68**
- **I2017** 20.1cm to 30cm **\$144/wRVU 3.18**
- **I2018** over 30cm **\$162/wRVU 3.61**

Intermediate Wound Repair – Note location/size (< 2.5cm is simple)

Intermediate repair of wounds to scalp, axilla, trunk, arms/legs (*no hands or feet*)

- **I2031** 2.5cm or less
 - \$241/wRVU: 2.00
- **I2032** 2.6cm to 7.5cm
 - \$279/wRVU 2.52
- **I2034** 7.6cm to 12.5cm
 - \$308/wRVU: 2.97
- **I2035** 12.6cm to 20cm
 - \$358/wRVU: 3.50
- **I2036** 20.1cm to 30cm
 - \$399/wRVU: 4.23
- **I2037** over 30cm
 - \$449/wRVU: 5.00

Intermediate repair of wounds of face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips

- **I2051** 2.5cm or less
 - \$260/wRVU 2.33
- **I2052** 2.6cm to 5.0cm
 - \$290/wRVU: 2.87
- **I2053** 5.1cm to 7.5cm
 - \$334/wRVU: 3.17
- **I2054** 7.6cm to 12.5cm
 - \$352/wRVU: 3.50
- **I2055** 12.6cm to 20cm
 - \$462/wRVU: 4.50
- **I2056** 20.1cm to 30cm
 - \$532/wRVU: 5.30
- **I2057** over 30cm
 - \$558/wRVU 6.00

Intermediate repair of wounds of neck, hands, feet or external genitalia

- **I2041** 2.5cm or less
 - \$242/wRVU 2.10
- **I2042** 2.6cm to 7.5cm
 - \$285/wRVU: 2.79
- **I2044** 7.6cm to 12.5cm
 - \$352/wRVU: 3.19
- **I2045** 12.6cm to 20cm
 - \$380/wRVU: 3.75
- **I2046** 20.1cm to 30cm
 - \$459/wRVU: 4.30
- **I2047** over 30cm
 - \$503/wRVU: 4.95

-25 and E&M if needed

Add up lengths

Complex Wound Repair – Note size/location (< 1.0cm is intermediate option)

Complex repair of trunk

- **13100** 1.1cm to 2.5cm
 - **\$313/wRVU: 3.00**
- **13101** 2.6cm to 7.5cm
 - **\$364/wRVU: 3.50**
- **+13102** add-on code used for each additional 5cm or less
 - **\$107/wRVU: 1.24**

Complex repair of scalp, arms or legs

- **13120** 1.1cm to 2.5cm
 - **\$326/wRVU: 3.23**
- **13121** 2.6cm to 7.5cm
 - **\$391/wRVU: 4.00**
- **+13122** add-on code used for each additional 5cm or less
 - **\$117/wRVU: 1.44**

- -25 and E&M if needed
- Add up lengths

Complex Laceration Repair – continued

Complex repair of forehead, cheeks, chin, mouth, neck axilla, genitalia, hands or feet

- **13131** 1.1cm to 2.5cm
 - **\$357/wRVU 3.73**
- **13132** 2.6cm to 7.5cm
 - **\$434/wRVU 4.78**
- **+13133** add-on code used for each additional 5cm or less
 - **\$156/wRVU 2.19**

Complex repair of eyelids, nose, ears or lips

- **13151** 1.1cm to 2.5cm
 - **\$390/wRVU 4.34**
- **13152** 2.6cm to 7.5cm
 - **\$458/wRVU 5.34**
- **+13153** add-on code used for each additional 5cm or less
 - **\$171/wRVU 2.38**

-25 and E&M if needed

Add up lengths. **Need > 1cm to be complex**

Surgical Coding - biopsy

- **11102** Tangential biopsy of skin (e.g., shave, scoop, “saucerize”, curette); single lesion
- **+11103** Tangential biopsy of skin (e.g., shave, scoop, “saucerize”, curette); each separate/additional lesion
 - wRVU: 0.66 + 0.38
- **11104** Punch biopsy of skin (including simple closure, when performed); single lesion
- **+11105** Punch biopsy of skin (including simple closure, when performed); each separate/additional lesion
 - wRVU: 0.83 + 0.45
- **11106** Incisional biopsy of skin (e.g., wedge) (including simple closure, when performed); single lesion
- **+11107** Incisional biopsy of skin (e.g., wedge) (including simple closure, when performed); each separate/additional lesion
 - wRVU: 1.01 + 0.54

Management: Incision and Drainage

Abscess, Furuncle, Carbuncle or Hidradenitis

■ Simple or single

- **10060** small incision is made, abscess is opened, drained and irrigated; the **wound is left open** for continued drainage
1.22 wRVU/\$117

Complicated or multiple

- **10061** report for **multiple** or **complicated, usually requiring gauze packing or a drain placed** and could require additional management at a later date. **Loculations. 2.45 wRVU/\$199**

- Don't forget "-25" and add to E&M for Medical Necessity
- When **two or more ... complicated/multiple** (and more \$\$\$)
- Both of the above have **10-day global periods**
- Different codes for pilonidal, hematoma, post-operative, Bartholin's abscess/cyst

Management: Incision and Removal of Foreign Body (FBR)

Simple/Cutaneous and Complicated

■ Simple, subcutaneous

- **10120** incision is made in the skin to remove foreign body embedded in subcutaneous tissue. Skin may be closed or allowed to heal secondarily. **1.22 wRVU/\$140**

Complicated

- **10121** report if the procedure is **more complicated**, requiring **dissection** of underlying tissues. **Adhesion/scar breakdown**. Post-procedure x-ray. **2.74 wRVU/\$244**

- Don't forget "-25" and add to E&M for Medical Necessity
- **Note location**
- Both of the above have **10-day global periods**

Acrochordon (skin tag)

- Skin tags are harmless, benign, fibrocutaneous, skin growths found in many body regions, often in creases, more often in females and more common in diabetics and those with obesity.
- Removal of skin tags is not generally considered a covered procedure and is viewed as cosmetic unless there is **documentation of excessive irritation and discomfort.**
- Removal may be done by forceps, scissors, blade, ligation, chemical or electrosurgical destruction (all are paid the same)
- **11200** removal of multiple skin tags, multiple body areas up to and **including 15** lesions. **0.82 wRVU/\$85**
- **+11201** **each additional 10 lesions**, or part thereof. **0.29 wRVU/\$17**

Management: **Shaving** of Epidermal or Dermal Lesions

Trunk, arms or legs

- **11300** diameter 0.5cm or less.
 - **\$91/wRVU: 0.60**
- **11301** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - **\$111/wRVU: 0.90**
- **11302** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - **\$125/wRVU: 1.05**
- **11303** lesions >2cm.
 - **\$139/wRVU: 1.25**

Scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia

- **11305** diameter 0.5cm or less.
 - **\$96/wRVU: 0.80**
- **11306** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - **\$112/wRVU: 0.96**
- **11307** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - **\$127/wRVU: 1.20**
- **11308** lesions >2cm
 - **\$134/wRVU: 1.46**

Face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, mucous membrane

- **11310** diameter **0.5cm or less.**
 - **\$106/wRVU: 0.80**
- **11311 0.6cm to 1cm**
 - **\$125/wRVU: 1.10**
- **11312 1.1cm to 2cm**
 - **\$142/wRVU: 1.30**
- **11313 lesions >2cm**
 - **\$166/wRVU: 1.68**

- Use -25 if needed, provide separate documentation
- Note size and location. **Malignant or benign is the same.**
- **Shave procedures have 0 global days**

Management: Excision of Benign Lesions

Trunk, arms or legs

- **11400** diameter < 0.5cm
 - **\$117/wRVU:0.90**
- **11401** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - **\$144/wRVU:1.28**
- **11402** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - **\$158/wRVU:1.45**
- **11403** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - **\$183/wRVU:1.84**
- **11404** 3.1cm to 4cm
 - **\$207/wRVU:2.11**
- **11406** over 4.0cm
 - **\$295/wRVU:3.52**

Scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia

- **11420** diameter <0.5cm
 - **\$116/wRVU 1.03**
- **11421** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - **\$147/wRVU 1.47**
- **11422** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - **\$165/wRVU:1.68**
- **11423** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - **\$190/wRVU:2.06**
- **11424** 3.1cm to 4.0cm
 - **\$220/wRVU 2.48**
- **11426** over 4.0cm
 - **\$305/wRVU 4.09**

Face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, mucous membranes

- **11440** diameter <0.5cm
 - **\$132/wRVU:1.05**
- **11441** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - **\$161/wRVU:1.53**
- **11442** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - **\$178/wRVU:1.77**
- **11443** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - **\$211/wRVU:2.34**
- **11444** 3.1cm to 4.0cm
 - **\$263/wRVU:3.19**
- **11446** over 4.0cm
 - **\$357/wRVU 4.80**

Use -25 if needed, provide separate documentation for E&M

If layered closure is used (>2.5cm), then document and bill second procedure

Note size and location

Excision procedures have 10 global days

Management: Excision of Malignant Lesions

Trunk, arms or legs

- **11600** diameter 0.5cm or less.
 - 1.63 wRVU/\$114
- **11601** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - 2.07 wRVU/\$211
- **11602** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - 2.27 wRVU/\$226
- **11603** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - 2.82 wRVU/\$257
- **11604** 3.1cm to 4cm
 - 3.17 wRVU/\$287
- **11606** over 4.0cm
 - 5.02 wRVU/\$414

Scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia

- **11620** diameter 0.5cm or less.
 - 1.64 wRVU/\$182
- **11621** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - 2.08 wRVU/\$211
- **11622** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - 2.41 wRVU/\$234
- **11623** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - 3.11 wRVU/\$274
- **11624** 3.1cm to 4.0cm
 - 3.62 wRVU/\$312
- **11626** over 4.0cm
 - 4.61 wRVU/\$375

Face, ears, eyelids, lips, nose, mucous membranes

- **11640** diameter < 0.5cm
 - 1.67 wRVU/\$187
- **11641** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - 2.17 wRVU/\$218
- **11642** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - 2.62 wRVU/\$247
- **11643** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - 3.42 wRVU/\$291
- **11644** 3.1cm to 4.0cm
 - 4.34 wRVU/\$360
- **11646** over 4.0cm
 - 6.26 wRVU/\$468

- Use -25 if needed, w/ separate documentation for E&M, If layered closure is used (>2.5cm), then document and bill second procedure

- Note size and location and if malignant (so, hold bill pending pathology); Excision procedures have **10 global days**

Malignant vs Benign Reimbursement

■ Trunk, arms or legs (Benign)

- **11400** diameter < 0.5cm
 - 0.90 wRVU/\$117
- **11401** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - 1.28 wRVU/\$144
- **11402** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - 1.45 wRVU/\$158
- **11403** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - 1.84 wRVU/\$183

■ Trunk, arms or legs (Malignant)

- **11600** diameter < 0.5cm
 - 1.63 wRVU/\$181
- **11601** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - 2.07 wRVU/\$211
- **11602** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - 2.27 wRVU/\$226
- **11603** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - 2.82 wRVU/\$257

Destruction of **Benign** Lesions - Number of Lesions

- Cryosurgery, curettement, chemosurgery, electrosurgery, laser
 - **17110** Destruction, any method; first 14 lesions 0.70 wRVU/\$104
 - **17111** Destruction, any method 15+ lesions 0.97 wRVU/\$122

- Use -25 if needed, provide separate documentation for E&M
- **I use this for wart removal**
- **After 15, bill only 17111, not both**
- Destruction procedures have **10 global days**

Destruction of **Premalignant** Lesions - Number of Lesions

- Cryosurgery, curettement, chemosurgery, electrosurgery, laser
 - **17000** Destruction, any method; first lesion **0.61 wRVU/\$62**
 - **+17003** Destruction second through 14 lesions, **each** (list in addition to 17000) **0.04 wRVU/\$6**
 - **17004** Destruction 15 or more lesions (do not report 17000 & 17003) **1.37 wRVU/\$154**

- Use -25 if needed, provide separate documentation for E&M
- 17003 is placed for EACH lesion after the first. **This is my AK method**
- **Code by number, but 17004 is stand-alone (15+)**
- Destruction procedures have **10 global days**

Destruction of Malignant Lesions – Site and Size

Trunk, arms or legs

- **17260** diameter < 0.5cm
 - (\$92/wRVU: 0.96)
- **17261** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - (\$137/wRVU: 1.22)
- **17262** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - (\$165/wRVU: 1.63)
- **17263** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - (\$178/wRVU: 1.84)
- **17264** 3.1cm to 4cm
 - (\$191/wRVU: 1.99)
- **17266** over 4.0cm
 - (\$218/wRVU: 2.39)

Scalp, neck, hands, feet, genitalia

- **17270** diameter < 0.5cm
 - (\$138/wRVU: 1.37)
- **17271** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - (\$154/wRVU: 1.54)
- **17272** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - (\$174/wRVU: 1.82)
- **17273** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - (\$194/wRVU: 2.10)
- **17274** 3.1cm to 4.0cm
 - (\$227/wRVU: 2.64)
- **17276** over 4.0cm
 - (\$263/wRVU: 3.25)

Face, ears, eyelids, nose, lips, mucous membrane

- **17280** diameter < 0.5cm
 - (\$130/wRVU: 1.22)
- **17281** 0.6cm to 1cm
 - (\$166/wRVU: 1.77)
- **17282** 1.1cm to 2cm
 - (\$190/wRVU: 2.09)
- **17283** 2.1cm to 3cm
 - (\$225/wRVU: 2.69)
- **17284** 3.1cm to 4.0cm
 - (\$256/wRVU: 3.20)
- **17286** over 4.0cm
 - (\$330/wRVU: 4.48)

- Use -25 if needed, provide separate documentation for E&M with your diagnosis
- Note size and location. **This is my ED&C procedure**
- Destruction procedures have **10 global days**