

Interventional Radiology Coding Case Studies

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Week of December 3, 2018

IVC Filter Placement, IVC gram, Extremity Venogram

PROCEDURE: Ultrasound-guided access right jugular vein, selective right femoropopliteal ascending venogram, selective right iliac venogram, inferior vena cavagram; inferior vena cava filter placement.

CLINICAL INDICATION: Patient has a history of extensive DVT. Patient states that her leg pain, swelling, heaviness have been worsening. Her leg pain is prohibiting her from walking. Her most recent INR was 2.1 this week. She denies having any previous DVT's/PE in the past. Her RLE pain and swelling are so severe and she has developed a burning sensation in the toes on her right foot.

PROCEDURE DETAILS: After verbal and informed written consent were obtained, the patient was brought to the angiographic suite and placed in a supine position. The procedure was performed with conscious sedation and analgesia under my direct supervision. Continuous blood pressure, pulse oximetry as well as heart rate monitoring was performed by an independent registered nurse. The right neck was prepped and draped in a standard sterile fashion. Sonographic evaluation of the neck shows a patent IJV; an image was stored in PACS. The skin was anesthetized with 4ml 1% lidocaine. Using real-time sonographic guidance, a micropuncture needle was seen advanced into the anterolateral IJV with subsequent placement of a 5Fr sheath. An 0.035in guidewire was maneuvered across the RA to the iliac vein confluence. A 4 Fr Kumpe catheter was maneuvered across the right CFV to the proximal popliteal vein. An ascending lower extremity venogram was obtained, demonstrating extensive occlusive thrombosis extending to the external iliac vein. The catheter was retracted to the CFV followed by iliofemoral venogram, showing extensive occlusive thrombosis extending to the iliac vein confluence. The catheter was retracted to the iliac vein confluence and exchanged for the filter introducer sheath with flush tip dilator. Through the flush dilator, an inferior vena cavagram was obtained, showing a patent IVC with bilateral renal vein inflow noted at the level of L1-2. The dilator was removed. The sheath was retracted to the infrarenal level. A Cook Select retrievable filter was then deployed at the infrarenal level. The sheath was removed and satisfactory hemostasis achieved with manual compression. The patient tolerated the procedure well without any immediate complications. The patient was transferred to the PACU in stable overall condition.

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ANGIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

1. Extensive, occlusive thrombosis extending from the proximal popliteal vein to the iliac vein confluence.
2. Patent IVC.
3. Renal veins are at L1-2.

IMPRESSION: Successful placement of a retrievable infrarenal IVC filter.

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Interventional Radiology Coding Case Studies CPT Codes

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IVC Filter Placement, IVC gram, Extremity Venogram

Procedure Codes:

- 37191 IVC Filter Placement
- 75820(59)(RT) Right extremity venogram
- 36012 Catheterization of right popliteal vein

Diagnosis Codes:

- I82.431 Acute embolism and thrombosis of right popliteal vein
- I82.411 Acute embolism and thrombosis of right femoral vein
- I82.421 Acute embolism and thrombosis of right iliac vein

Comments:

- Code 37191 is assigned for placement of an IVC Filter. The IVC gram is bundled with the placement code.
- 36012 is reported for catheterization of the popliteal vein, which is the most distal catheter placement from the initial access. It is reported separately because it was not part of the IVC filter placement.
- Code 75820 is reported for imaging of the right lower extremity.
- Note there are differences of opinion as to whether or not code +76937 should be reported with code 37191 for IVC Filter placement.
- Contrast amount not documented.
- Sedation time not documented.

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Applicable Coding Rules:

Catheterizations

- All catheterizations required to perform an IVC filter placement, repositioning or removal are bundled into codes 37191-37193.
- Catheterization codes may only be reported when separate procedures are performed in conjunction with IVC Filter procedures.

Diagnostic Angiography

- To report either code 75825 for an IVC gram or code 75827 for an SVC gram, the venacavagram must be diagnostic in nature, resulting in the decision to place a filter. In most cases, when a filter is placed, a diagnosis has already been established warranting placement of an IVC filter, therefore reporting a diagnostic venacavagram in addition to the placement of a filter is rare.

IVC Filter Procedures (37191-37193)

- Whether or not a filter is a temporary or a permanent filter, has no bearing on code selection for IVC Filter placement.
- Codes 37191 - 37193 include all work necessary to place, reposition or remove an IVC filter. All of the following components are bundled into these codes and should not be reported with IVC filter procedures:
 - ❖ Ultrasound guidance for vascular access (+76937)
 - ❖ Venous system catheter placements (36010-36012)
 - ❖ Caval or renal venography (roadmapping) (75825, 75827, 75831, 75833)
 - ❖ Imaging guidance (76942, +77002)
 - ❖ Intravascular ultrasound (+37252, +37253)

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Applicable Coding Rules (continued):

- If the bundled services are performed during the same session and are unrelated to the IVC filter procedure, the services performed may be reported as applicable. Modifier -59 is utilized to indicate that a distinct or separate procedure has been performed.
- Code 37619 is utilized to report those cases in which a ligation of the inferior vena cava is performed.
- **Conscious Sedation.** Moderate conscious sedation is reported separately with code range 99151-99157 (See Section titled *"Moderate Conscious Sedation"* for instruction on how to correctly report these codes). Historically, CPT® noted codes that include moderate conscious sedation using a bullseye symbol next to the codes and had provided a summary of CPT® codes that included moderate conscious sedation in Appendix G of the CPT manual. The bullseye is no longer utilized and the appendix has been removed.

Radiological Supervision & Interpretation

- The IVC filter codes include the radiological supervision and interpretation for the surgical component as well as imaging that is performed for roadmapping purposes. Venacavagrams performed for identifying location, sizing and positioning are considered inherent to the insertion, repositioning or removal of IVC filters.

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