Billing in Reconstructive Urology

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Disclosures

• Paid proctor/consultant Boston Scientific
  – Annual compensation-5,000

• Boston Scientific unrestricted educational grant.-$6000

• I apologize to all of your foreign guests

• This talk is about **male reconstruction** billing
Warning

• I am not a certified coder.

• All attempts have been made to be accurate with current coding information. References have been provided when available. It is recommended that you check with coders in your practice and the payers in your area for accuracy.
Objectives

- Urethroplasty
- Buried penis
- Bladder neck contractures
- Penile prosthesis
- Artificial urinary sphincter
- Urologic Trauma
How did I get here?

- 2011 my department coder left the practice
- Hospital coders took over
- Within 2 weeks I was informed that I was committing fraud by miscoding buccal harvests
Buccal Mucosa Harvest-AUA Hotline

- CPT 40818- Excision of the mouth vestibule as a donor graft. (wRVU=2.83)
  - For repair of oral mucosa defects

- CPT 15240 **Full thickness graft**, free, including direct closure of donor site, forehead, cheeks, chin, mouth, neck, axillae, genitalia, hands, and/or feet; 20 sq cm or less. (wRVU=10.41)
  - From skin section
  - Approved by AUA Coding Hotline

- CPT 20926 Tissue grafts, other (eg, paratendon, fat, dermis). (wRVU=39.21)
  - From orthopedics section
  - Approved by AUA Coding Hotline
Radiated Posterior Urethroplasty

- CPT- 53415 for posterior urethroplasty

- CPT- 55801 Prostatectomy, perineal, subtotal (including control of postoperative bleeding, vasectomy, meatotomty, urethral calibration

- and/or dilation, and internal urethrotomy)
Perineal Urethrostomy

- CPT 53010 (*Urethrotomy or urethrostomy, external [separate procedure]; perineal urethra, external*)
- Describes making a cut over a Van Buren sound
- Evertting mucosa and suturing to skin
- Not current standard of perineal urethrostomy in the reconstructive world.
Perineal Urethrostomy

- 53400- First stage Johansen urethroplasty

- 14040 (Adjacent tissue transfer or rearrangement, forehead, cheeks, chin, mouth, neck, axillae, genitalia, hands and/or feet; defect 10 sq cm or less)
  - Codes for the skin based flap portion of the procedure

- Documentation is key- Don’t refer to a perineal urethrostomy in clinical notes.
  - First stage Johansen of the perineum
CPT 14040 wRVU = 8.6

- Adjacent tissue transfer or rearrangement, forehead, cheeks, chin, mouth, neck, axillae, genitalia, hands and/or feet; defect 10 sq cm or less

- Multiple options for use
  - Byar’s Flaps—skin flap made of dorsal prepuce to resurface the ventral penis
  - De-epithelialized scrotal flap to cover the urethroplasty to prevent fistula formation.

- Make sure flaps aren’t included in base procedure such as certain hypospadias repairs

AUA Health Policy and Advocacy Brief, March 4, 2015
http://www.auanet.org/advocacy/pab/view.cfm?i=4718&a=12406
CPT 15470 wRVU=11.80

- Flap; island pedicle requiring identification and dissection of an anatomically named axial vessel

- Make sure flaps aren’t included in base procedure such as hypospadias
  - De-epithelialized dartos island flap - CPT 15470 **CAN’T** be unbundled in 54328, 54332, and 54336
  - This flap is described in the narrative of the above codes and thus can’t be billed separately.

- CPT 15470- **CAN** be used as a *tunica vaginalis flap* to cover urethral repair
  - Allowed in 54324, 54326, 54328, 54332

- Applicable in other urethroplasty codes

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http://www.auanet.org/advocacy/pab/view.cfm?i=4718&a=12406
CPT 15470- De-epithelialized dartos island flap
CPT 15470 Tunica Vaginalis Flap
Hypospadias Complications

• 54340 — Repair of hypospadias complications (ie, fistula, stricture, diverticula); by closure, incision, or excision, simple

• 54344 — ... requiring mobilization of skin flaps and urethroplasty with flap or patch graft

• 54348 — ... requiring extensive dissection and urethroplasty with flap, patch or tubed graft (includes urinary diversion).
Hypospadias Cripple

- 54352 (Repair of hypospadias cripple requiring extensive dissection and excision of previously constructed structures including re-release of chordee and reconstruction of urethra and penis by use of local skin as grafts and island flaps and skin brought in as flaps or grafts)

Michael A. Ferragamo, MD, FACS Urology Coding Alert, May 2015
Buried Penis

- 15839- *(Excision, excessive skin and subcutaneous tissue including lipectomy)*
  - Removal of suprapubic fat
- 14040- *(Adjacent tissue transfer or rearrangement...genitalia....10 sq cm or less)*
  - Unburying or tacking of suprapubic region
- 55150- *(Resection of the scrotum)*
Buried Penis
Post Op Bladder Neck Contractures

• Depends on cause of BNC
• Post prostatectomy
  – Really a urethral stricture since BN is surgically absent
  – 52276 (Cystourethroscopy with direct vision internal urethrotomy)
• Post TURP
  – TURBN 52640 (Transurethral resection; of postoperative bladder neck contracture).
  – TUIBN Attach modifier 52 (Reduced service)
Penile Prosthesis  SST Deformity

• SST or glans fixation
  54360- Plastic operation on penis to correct deformity
Penile Prosthesis Distal Erosion

- 15777 Implantation of biologic implant (eg, acellular dermal matrix) for soft tissue reinforcement (eg, breast, trunk)

- Use when biologic grafting material is used for a repair
Artificial Urinary Sphincters

• Transcorporal approach- Apply 22 modifier

• Erosion
  – Make sure to add any additional repair of the urethra
  – CPT Complete anastomotic repair 53410
  – CPT Primary closure 53510 Urethorrhaphy, Perineal

• Periurethral bulking-
  – If urethral bulking is performed using material
  – CPT 15777 Implantation of biologic implant (eg, acellular dermal matrix) for soft tissue reinforcement (eg, breast, trunk
Urologic Trauma- Penile Fracture

• CPT 54437 traumatic corporeal tear(s)
• wRVU 11.5

http://www.auanet.org/advocacy/physician-fee-schedule-2016.cfm
Urologic Trauma-Penile Amputation

- CPT 54438 describes a replantation, penis, complete amputation.

- wRVU of 24.5

http://www.auanet.org/advocacy/physician-fee-schedule-2016.cfm
Urologic Trauma- Primary Realignment

• Best you can hope for is 52000 with a 22 modifier

• Complex foley placement 51703 cannot be unbundled from 52000

• Also consider any additional radiology or suprapubic tube placement codes if performed at the same time.


Questions?