



Coding and Reimbursement Digest

January 2022

Health policy and economics

Physician burnout is up, 50% affected

[Read more](#)

FDA recalls 95,000 directional atherectomy systems

[Read more](#)

Coding and reimbursement

New CPT modifier- effective Jan. 1, 2022

[Modifier 93- audio-only services.](#)

[Carrier advocacy coverage letters](#)

SIR has become aware of carriers denying coverage for IR procedures and developed evidence-based coverage letters to help our members overturn these denials. Upcoming letters for CY 2022 include venous stenting and bone ablation.

[RUC](#)

The American Medical Association (AMA) hosted a virtual meeting for the RVS Update Committee (RUC) from Jan. 12–15. The SIR RUC team members and staff attended the meeting. Curtis Anderson, MD, PhD, (SIR's RUC advisor) along with Minhaj Khaja, MD, (SIR's RUC alternative advisor) presented two new procedure codes for valuation. The codes pertain to percutaneous arteriovenous fistula creation.

The time and value recommendations approved by the RUC were based on multispecialty survey data collected in November 2021. Dr. Anderson took the lead in presenting the percutaneous arteriovenous fistula creation codes. The AMA will forward the RUC's time and value recommendations to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for review and inclusion in the 2023 Medicare physician fee schedule. However, CMS is not required to accept the RUC's recommendations and propose their times and values for the codes.

[CPT](#)

The AMA CPT® Editorial Panel meeting took place Feb 3–5, 2022. The SIR CPT team of advisors, members and staff attended virtually.

[Coding application and guidance](#)

Our annual coding webinar aired on Feb. 9. An on demand version will become available in the coming weeks.

If you have a coding question, [click here](#) and ask the coding team now.

Ashley Maleki
Manager of Coding and Reimbursement
amaleki@sirweb.org

Brendon Alves
Associate, Medical Coding and Reimbursement
balves@sirweb.org