



CASTING AND STRAPPING GUIDELINES

1. The first cast or traction device is included in the cost of a surgical procedure. Surgical procedures include codes 20000-29999. The costs of materials are included in the service code and charges for codes 29000-29590 are disallowed.
2. The cost of materials for casting or strapping is billable when it is provided as an initial procedure in which no surgery is performed. In addition to the cost of materials, the appropriate level of office visit should be billed when no surgery is performed.
3. A charge for procedure codes 29000-29590 is allowed only when the casting or strapping is a replacement procedure used during the period of follow-up care. The charge for an office visit is allowed only if significant identifiable further services are provided at the time of the cast application or strapping.
4. Codes 29000-29590 include both the application and removal of the cast or strapping.
5. Codes 29700-29799 for cast removals are allowed only when the cast is applied by another physician. These codes are not applicable when the cast is removed by a different physician in the same group or facility.