

Auditing Based on Time

Time-Base Calculation Guide

Total Time must fall exactly into the ranges for the code to apply

For New Patient Visits:

If total time is less than 15 minutes, coding based on time does not apply.
If total time is greater than 74 minutes, add prolonged service code as appropriate.

For Established Patient Visits:

If total time is less than 10 minutes, coding based on time does not apply.
If total time is greater than 55 minutes, add prolonged service code as appropriate.

Provider time includes the following activities, when performed:

- Preparing to see the patient such as reviewing the patient's record
- Obtaining and/or reviewing separately obtained history
- Performing a medically appropriate history and examination
- Counseling and educating the patient, family, and/or caregiver
- Ordering prescription medications, tests, or procedures
- Referring and communicating with other health care providers when not separately reported during the visit
- Documenting clinical information in the electronic or other health record
- interpreting results when not separately reported
- Communicating results to the patient/family/caregiver
- Coordinating the care of the patient when not separately reported

Total Encounter Time: _____

Evaluation and Management Code: _____

Prolonged Service: No Yes: Code: _____

New Patient		Established Patient	
		99211	No Time Listed
99202	15-29 Minutes	99212	10-19 Minutes
99203	30-44 Minutes	99213	20-29 Minutes
99204	45-59 Minutes	99214	30-39 Minutes
99205	60-74 Minutes	99215	40-54 Minutes
Prolonged Time Calculations			
*Prolonged time less than 15-minute increments are not billed			
New Patient - CPT		New Patient - CMS	
99205		60-74 Min.	
99205, 99417x1		99205, G2212x1	
99205, 99417x2		99205, G2212x2	
99205, 99417x3		99205, G2212x3	
Established Patient - CPT		Established Patient - CMS	
99215		40-54 Min.	
99215, 99417x1		99215, G2212x1	
99215, 99417x2		99215, G2212x2	
99215, 99417x3		99215, G2212x3	

Auditing Based on Medical Decision Making (aka Medical Necessity)

Number/Complexity of Problems Addressed		Amount and Complexity of Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed				
Minimal	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Self-limited or minor problem	Category 1: <input type="checkbox"/> QTY: _____ Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source* <input type="checkbox"/> QTY: _____ Review of the result(s) of each unique tests* <input type="checkbox"/> QTY: _____ Ordering of each unique test* * Each unique tests, order, or document				
Low	<input type="checkbox"/> 2+ Self-limited or minor problems <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Stable Chronic Illness <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Acute Uncomplicated Illness/Injury					
Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> 1+ Chronic illness w/exacerbation, progression or treatment side effects <input type="checkbox"/> 2+ Stable Chronic illness <input type="checkbox"/> Undiagnosed problem w/uncertain prognosis <input type="checkbox"/> Acute illness w/systemic symptoms <input type="checkbox"/> Acute complicated injury	Independent Historian (IH) (Category 2 for Limited; Category I for Moderate/High) <input type="checkbox"/> Assessment requiring independent historian(s)				
High		Category 2: <input type="checkbox"/> Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other QHP (not separately reported)				
		Category 3: <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other QHP/appropriate source (not separately reported)				
		Total	0 or 1	1 of 2	1 of 3	2 of 3
			1-Category 1 or less	2- Category 1 IH	3-Category 1/IH 1-Category 2 1-Cateogry 3	3-Category 1/IH 1-Category 2 1-Cateogry 3
		Data Level	Minimal or None	Limited	Moderate	Extensive

Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management

Minimal	<input type="checkbox"/> Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment Examples: Rest, garbles, elastic bandages, superficial dressings
Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment Examples: OTC drugs, minor surgery w/o identified risk factors, PT OT therapy, IV fluids w/o additives
Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment Examples: Prescription drug management, Decision regarding minor surgery w/ identified patient or Tx risk factors, Decisions regarding elective major surgery w/o identified PT or Tx risk factors, Diagnosis of Tx significantly limited by social determinates of health
High	<input type="checkbox"/> High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment Examples: Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity, Decisions regarding elective major surgery w/ identified Patient or treatment risk factors, Decisions regarding emergency major surgery, Decisions regarding hospitalization, Decisions not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis

Level of Medical Decision Making (MDM)	Number/Complexity of Problems	Minimal	Low	Moderate	High
MUST consider 2 of the 3 MDM elements for the overall MDM Level	Amount/Complexity of Data	Minimal or none	Limited	Moderate	Extensive
- Use any two components that meet or exceed	Risk	Minimal	Low	Moderate	High
- Drop the lowest one	MDM Level	Straightforward	Low	Moderate	High
NEW Patient		99202	99203	99204	99205
Established Patient		99212	99213	99214	99215