

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code

Repair posterior tibial tendon CPT code is a crucial term for healthcare providers, medical coders, and billing professionals involved in orthopedic and podiatric procedures. Accurate coding ensures proper reimbursement, compliance with insurance guidelines, and clear documentation of surgical interventions. Understanding the specific CPT codes associated with posterior tibial tendon repair is essential to streamline the billing process, avoid claim denials, and facilitate effective communication among medical teams.

Understanding the Posterior Tibial Tendon and Its Importance

What Is the Posterior Tibial Tendon?

The posterior tibial tendon is a vital structure in the lower leg and foot, responsible for supporting the arch and enabling foot inversion and plantarflexion. It runs along the inner side of the ankle, attaching the posterior tibialis muscle to various bones in the foot.

Common Conditions Requiring Repair

- Posterior tibial tendon dysfunction (PTTD): Often leads to flatfoot deformity, pain, and instability.
- Tendon tears or ruptures: Usually caused by overuse, trauma, or degenerative changes.
- Chronic tendinitis: Persistent inflammation may necessitate surgical intervention if conservative treatments fail.

Coding for Posterior Tibial Tendon Repair: The CPT Codes

Primary CPT Code for Posterior Tibial Tendon Repair

The main CPT code used for posterior tibial tendon repair is:

- **28040** - Tendon repair, primary, flexor or extensor, foot or ankle; each tendon

However, for posterior tibial tendon specific procedures, the more appropriate and frequently used codes include:

- **28488** - Tendon transfer or transplant, flexor, with or without graft, ankle and foot; posterior tibial tendon transfer
- **27650** - Repair, soft tissue, heel, including tendo-Achilles or posterior tibial tendon, with or without graft; open

Note: The exact CPT code depends on the specific procedure performed, such as debridement, repair, or transfer, as well as whether the approach is open or minimally invasive.

Additional Codes for Associated Procedures

In cases where multiple procedures are performed during the same surgical session, modifiers and additional CPT codes are used:

- **27756** - Tenorrhaphy, posterior tibial tendon, open
- **27650** - Repair of soft tissue, heel, including tendo-Achilles or posterior tibial tendon
- **27809** - Arthrodesis, ankle, with or without internal fixation

Choosing the Correct CPT Code for Posterior Tibial Tendon Repair

Factors Influencing CPT Code Selection

Selecting the appropriate CPT code involves consideration of several factors:

- Type of procedure (repair, transfer, reconstruction)
- Approach used (open vs. minimally invasive)
- Extent of repair or reconstruction performed
- Additional procedures performed during the same session

Examples of Common Posterior Tibial Tendon Procedures and Corresponding CPT Codes

- Primary repair of posterior tibial tendon (open approach):

Use CPT **27756** (Tenorrhaphy, posterior tibial tendon, open).

- Posterior tibial tendon transfer:

Use CPT **28488** (Tendon transfer or transplant, flexor, ankle and foot).

- Soft tissue repair involving the heel and posterior tibial tendon:

Use CPT **27650**.

- Minimally invasive or endoscopic repair:

While specific CPT codes might vary, consult the latest coding guidelines or the CPT manual for updates, as some procedures may be unlisted and require modifiers or new codes.

Documentation Tips for Accurate Coding of Posterior Tibial Tendon Repair

Essential Documentation Elements

Proper documentation supports the CPT code billed and ensures compliance:

- Detailed operative report describing the procedure performed
- Identification of the tendon repaired or transferred
- Approach used (open, endoscopic, minimally invasive)
- Extent of repair or reconstruction
- Any additional procedures or grafts used
- Postoperative plan and prognosis

Common Pitfalls to Avoid

- Using the wrong CPT code due to misidentification of procedure type.
- Omitting modifiers when multiple procedures are performed.
- Failing to document specific details about the repair technique.
- Not updating coding knowledge with the latest CPT revisions.

Reimbursement and Coding Guidelines

Insurance and Payer Considerations

Proper coding directly impacts reimbursement. Insurance companies may scrutinize the code selection to ensure it matches the procedure documented.

Coding Resources and Updates

- The American Medical Association (AMA) CPT manual is the primary resource.
- Payer-specific guidelines, LCDs (Local Coverage Determinations), and LCD updates.
- Coding software and resources like EncoderPro or SuperCoder can assist in selecting the most accurate codes.

When to Use Modifiers

Modifiers such as **-51** (multiple procedures), **-59** (distinct procedural service), or **-LT** (left side) may be necessary to clarify the procedure performed.

Conclusion

Accurately coding for posterior tibial tendon repair is essential for effective billing, insurance reimbursement, and legal compliance. The correct CPT code depends on the specific surgical approach, procedure type, and associated interventions. Commonly used codes include **27756** for open tendon repair and **28488** for tendon transfer. Proper documentation and staying updated with the latest CPT revisions will help ensure accurate coding, streamline the reimbursement process, and support optimal patient care.

For healthcare providers and coders, mastering the nuances of posterior tibial tendon CPT codes enhances practice efficiency and ensures compliance with coding standards. Always verify the latest coding guidelines and consult with billing specialists when needed to navigate complex cases effectively.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the appropriate CPT code for repairing a posterior tibial tendon rupture?

The CPT code commonly used for posterior tibial tendon repair is 27650, which covers repair of the posterior tibial tendon, primary or secondary.

Are there specific CPT codes for reconstructing or

augmenting the posterior tibial tendon?

Yes, CPT code 27652 is used for repair with graft, or reconstruction of the posterior tibial tendon, if augmentation or grafting is performed.

How do I determine whether to use CPT code 27650 or 27652 for posterior tibial tendon repair?

Use CPT 27650 for primary repair of the posterior tibial tendon; use 27652 when the procedure involves reconstruction with a graft or augmentation.

Are there modifiers needed when billing posterior tibial tendon repair CPT codes?

Modifiers such as -52 (reduced services) or -59 (distinct procedural service) may be necessary if procedures are combined or performed in a different setting; consult payer guidelines for specific requirements.

What documentation is required to support billing for posterior tibial tendon repair using CPT codes?

Detailed operative reports describing the extent of the repair, the technique used, and whether grafts or augmentation were involved are essential to support the chosen CPT code for billing.

Additional Resources

Repair Posterior Tibial Tendon CPT Code: A Comprehensive Guide for Accurate Billing and Coding

Understanding how to properly code for repair posterior tibial tendon procedures is essential for orthopedic surgeons, coders, and billing professionals alike. Accurate coding ensures appropriate reimbursement, compliance with regulatory standards, and clear communication of the services provided. In this article, we will explore the key aspects of coding for posterior tibial tendon repair, including the relevant CPT codes, procedural details, coding nuances, and best practices for documentation.

Introduction to Posterior Tibial Tendon Pathology and Surgical Repair

The posterior tibial tendon (PTT) plays a crucial role in maintaining the medial longitudinal arch of the foot and facilitating foot inversion and plantarflexion. Dysfunction or rupture of this tendon can lead to adult-acquired flatfoot deformity, pain, and functional impairment. When conservative treatments fail, surgical intervention—such as tendon repair or reconstruction—is often indicated.

Properly coding these procedures is vital for accurate billing and insurance reimbursement. CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes used for posterior tibial tendon repair are specific and detailed, reflecting the surgical approach, extent, and additional procedures performed.

Key CPT Codes for Posterior Tibial Tendon Repair

Primary CPT Codes for Posterior Tibial Tendon Repair

- 27650 - Repair, primary, posterior tibial tendon, open; with or without debridement of tendon
- 27654 - Repair, secondary, posterior tibial tendon, open; with or without debridement of tendon

Additional or Related Codes

Depending on the complexity of the case, other CPT codes may be applicable:

- 27660 - Tendon transfer or rerouting (e.g., flexor digitorum longus, flexor hallucis longus) for posterior tibial tendon dysfunction
- 27680 - Tendon graft, any tendon, for repair of posterior tibial tendon
- 27590 - Tendon transfer, Achilles to posterior tibial tendon, with or without transfer of other tendons

Understanding the CPT Codes: A Closer Look

CPT Code 27650: Open Primary Repair of Posterior Tibial Tendon

This code is used when the surgeon performs an open repair of a primary posterior tibial tendon, typically involving:

- Debridement of the damaged or degenerated tendon
- Direct suture repair of the tendon ends
- Possibly, the use of anchors or sutures for reattachment

When to use:

This is appropriate for acute or chronic repairs where the tendon tissue is salvageable and can be directly repaired without additional procedures.

CPT Code 27654: Open Secondary Repair of Posterior Tibial Tendon

This code applies when the primary repair is unsuccessful, or the tendon is too degenerated for direct repair, necessitating a secondary procedure, which may involve:

- Tendon grafting or augmentation
- Tendon transfer procedures
- Debridement with scar tissue removal

When to use:

Use this code for revision surgeries or cases where primary repair is not feasible.

CPT Code 27660: Tendon Transfer or Rerouting

In cases where direct repair is not possible, tendon transfer procedures such as rerouting the flexor digitorum longus (FDL) to replace or augment the posterior tibial tendon are performed. This code includes the transfer of tendons and associated procedures.

Indications for Posterior Tibial Tendon Repair

The decision to code for posterior tibial tendon repair depends on specific clinical factors:

- Tendon rupture or tear confirmed through imaging or intraoperative findings
- Tendon degeneration with substantial fraying or attrition
- Flexible flatfoot deformity with posterior tibial tendon dysfunction
- Failure of conservative treatments like orthoses, physical therapy, and medications

Documentation Requirements for Accurate Coding

Proper documentation is critical to support the selected CPT code. Ensure the operative note includes:

- Diagnosis: Clearly state the pathology (e.g., posterior tibial tendinitis, rupture)
- Procedure details: Specify whether the repair was primary or secondary, open or minimally invasive
- Extent of repair: Describe debridement, suturing, grafting, or transfer procedures
- Intraoperative findings: Note tendon quality, presence of degeneration, or rupture
- Additional procedures: Document any concomitant procedures such as osteotomies, tendon transfers, or grafts

Common Coding Scenarios and Their Approaches

Scenario 1: Primary Open Repair of Posterior Tibial Tendon

Patient presents with a clean rupture of the posterior tibial tendon confirmed intraoperatively.

Coding approach:

- Use 27650 for the open primary repair
- Document debridement, repair method, and tendon condition

Scenario 2: Tendon Transfer for Posterior Tibial Tendon Dysfunction

Patient with advanced flatfoot deformity undergoes a flexor digitorum longus (FDL) transfer to replace or augment the posterior tibial tendon.

Coding approach:

- Use 27660 for the tendon transfer procedure
- Include detailed operative notes to justify the transfer

Scenario 3: Revision or Secondary Repair

Previous repair failed, requiring grafting or secondary repair.

Coding approach:

- Use 27654 for secondary repair or grafting
- Specify additional procedures performed in operative documentation

Best Practices for Accurate Coding and Reimbursement

- **Thorough Documentation:** Capture all procedural details, including approach, extent, and any adjunct procedures.
- **Match the Code to the Procedure:** Select the CPT code that best describes the performed operation—primary repair, secondary repair, transfer, or graft.
- **Use Modifier 52 or 22 as Needed:** If a procedure is modified or more extensive than typical, appropriate modifiers can be added.
- **Stay Updated on Coding Changes:** CPT codes can evolve; always verify current codes and guidelines annually.
- **Consult Payer Policies:** Some insurance providers may have specific requirements for limb revascularization or tendon procedures.

Conclusion

Accurate coding for repair posterior tibial tendon procedures is integral to ensuring appropriate reimbursement and compliance. By understanding the nuances of CPT codes such as 27650, 27654, and 27660, and aligning documentation with coding standards, healthcare professionals can streamline billing processes and avoid potential denials or audits. Always stay informed about the latest coding updates and document thoroughly to support the chosen CPT codes. Proper coding not only reflects the complexity of the surgical intervention but also helps in delivering quality care and maintaining fiscal health within your practice.

Remember: When in doubt, consult the latest CPT coding manuals, payer policies, or seek the advice of a certified medical coder to ensure accuracy and compliance in your billing practices.

[Repair Posterior Tibial Tendon Cpt Code](#)

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: Complete Global Service Data for Orthopaedic Surgery: Lower extremity and nervous system , 2005

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 1996" , 1996
Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: Advanced Reconstruction: Knee Jay R. Lieberman, MD, Daniel J. Berry, MD, Frederick Azar, MD, 2018-08-30 The world's leading knee reconstruction and sports medicine surgeons guide you to manage the toughest cases you'll see. Step-by-step guidance for more than 70 advanced reconstruction techniques.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 1994" , 1994
Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 1997" ,

1997 Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 2002" , 2002 Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 2000" , 2000 Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: *CPT Outpatient Services* Grace M. Kotowicz, 2005-05 An annotated version of CPT prepared for hospitals, ambulatory surgery centres and outpatient hospital and provider-based office settings. This book offers a singular reference that uses symbols to provide instruction for reporting each CPT code under Medicare's Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS).

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 1995" , 1995 Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 1998" , 1998 Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 2001" , 2001 Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 1993" , 1993 Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: "Code of Massachusetts regulations, 1999" , 1999 Archival snapshot of entire looseleaf Code of Massachusetts Regulations held by the Social Law Library of Massachusetts as of January 2020.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: *CPT Plus, 2002* American Medical Association, Committee on Medicolegal Aspects, 2001-12 Current procedural terminology codes and instructions for use.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: Medical Fee Schedule , 1995

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: *CPT Expert 2002* Medicode, 2001

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: *Federal Register* , 1990-12

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: *Case Competencies in Orthopaedic Surgery*
E-Book Rachel Frank, Brian Forsythe, Matthew T. Provencher, 2016-01-22 Case Competencies in Orthopaedic Surgery is a centralized, easy-access guide to preparing for cases most commonly encountered during training. Written by expert author teams consisting of both attending surgeons and residents, it follows a technique-based format and design that summarizes the surgical steps, from room set-up to closure, of all cases relevant to the 15 categories of Orthopaedic Surgery Case Minimums as determined by the ACGME. - Forty technique-based chapters boast an outline format with minimal text, high-definition intraoperative figures, and original illustrations. - Each chapter contains easy-to-use tables outlining the surgical steps, essential equipment, technical pearls, and common pitfalls of each case. - Includes coverage of today's hot topics in orthopaedic surgery, such as fractures, arthroscopy, arthroplasty, bread and butter pediatric cases, and basic subspecialty cases (spine, foot and ankle, oncology, hand, shoulder, and more). - Lists CPT and ICD 9/10 codes to help with case logging.

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: Physicians Fee & Coding Guide , 2011

repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code: Sports Medicine Robert A. Arciero, 2004 This portable references provide succinct information on the most common orthopaedic procedures.

Related to repair posterior tibial tendon cpt code

System Repair Disc - Create | Tutorials - Windows 7 Help Forums This will show you how to create a Windows 7 system repair disc to be able to use to boot to system recovery options to help recover your Windows 7 installation if you don't

Startup Repair | Tutorials - Windows 7 Help Forums Startup Repair is a system recovery tool that automates common diagnostic and repair tasks of unbootable Windows 7 installations. If the computer fails over into Windows RE

Rampart Computers - Bixby, Ok Business On-site Service and Repair \$95 per hour

SFC /SCANNOW Command - System File Checker | Tutorials The sfc /scannow command (System File Checker) scans the integrity of all protected Windows 7 system files and replaces incorrect corrupted, changed/modified, or

System Recovery Options | Tutorials This will show you how to boot to the System Recovery Options screen to select the Startup Repair, System Restore, Complete PC Restore, Memory Diagnostic Tool, or

Repair Install | Tutorials - Windows 7 Help Forums This will show you how to do a repair install (aka: in-place upgrade install) to fix your currently installed Windows 7 and preserve your user accounts, data, programs, and system

Windows Standard Embedded 7 Restore/Repair Help I have a piece of test equipment with a custom built PC that controls it running Windows Standard Embedded 7. I frequently have to run SFC /SCANNOW to fix errors and it's

Programs and Features - Uninstall or Change a Program A) Click/tap on the Repair or Change/Repair (depending on the button displayed) toolbar button. (see screenshot above) OR B) Right click on the selected program, and

Windows 7 Embedded System Restore Disc - Windows 7 Forums To use your Win7 backup image to do a System Image Recovery, you can make a System Repair Disc - Create or make Win7 installation media for your licensed version from

MBR - Restore Windows 7 Master Boot Record | Tutorials If you have been dual booting with Linux, then you probably know one of the Linux boot managers like Grub or LILO has been installed in the MBR of your hard drive. What can

System Repair Disc - Create | Tutorials - Windows 7 Help Forums This will show you how to create a Windows 7 system repair disc to be able to use to boot to system recovery options to help recover your Windows 7 installation if you don't have

Startup Repair | Tutorials - Windows 7 Help Forums Startup Repair is a system recovery tool that automates common diagnostic and repair tasks of unbootable Windows 7 installations. If the computer fails over into Windows RE

Rampart Computers - Bixby, Ok Business On-site Service and Repair \$95 per hour

SFC /SCANNOW Command - System File Checker | Tutorials The sfc /scannow command (System File Checker) scans the integrity of all protected Windows 7 system files and replaces incorrect corrupted, changed/modified, or

System Recovery Options | Tutorials This will show you how to boot to the System Recovery Options screen to select the Startup Repair, System Restore, Complete PC Restore, Memory Diagnostic Tool, or Command

Repair Install | Tutorials - Windows 7 Help Forums This will show you how to do a repair install (aka: in-place upgrade install) to fix your currently installed Windows 7 and preserve your user accounts, data, programs, and system

Windows Standard Embedded 7 Restore/Repair Help I have a piece of test equipment with a custom built PC that controls it running Windows Standard Embedded 7. I frequently have to run SFC /SCANNOW to fix errors and it's

Programs and Features - Uninstall or Change a Program A) Click/tap on the Repair or Change/Repair (depending on the button displayed) toolbar button. (see screenshot above) OR B)

Right click on the selected program, and

Windows 7 Embedded System Restore Disc - Windows 7 Forums To use your Win7 backup image to do a System Image Recovery, you can make a System Repair Disc - Create or make Win7 installation media for your licensed version from

MBR - Restore Windows 7 Master Boot Record | Tutorials If you have been dual booting with Linux, then you probably know one of the Linux boot managers like Grub or LILO has been installed in the MBR of your hard drive. What can

Related Articles

- [slaughterhouse-five pdf](#)
- [somewhere over the rainbow pdf](#)
- [trigger point chart pdf](#)

[Back to Home](#)