Documentation Dissection

This patient is a 55-year-old man with complaints of painful corns on his right and left little toe, and painful calluses on the outer aspects of both his feet. He has prominent bunions of both feet [1]; however, he does not want surgery to correct this. He is a construction worker and the pain from the corns and calluses is really bothering him. He has tried padding his boots, and it has gotten to the point that this does not help. While here he asked about a 3 x 5 cm lesion on his left forehead. I am not sure what this is, so it is going to be biopsied.

Xylocaine spray was used on both his right and left toe and the outer aspects of his right and left bunions. Both areas were prepped with alcohol and draped in sterile fashion. A No. 15 blade was used to cut out the hard center of the corn on the right little toe and then the area around it was carefully scraped until I was down to normal skin tissue [2]. A different No. 15 surgical blade was used to gradually scrape away the callus of the right hallux [3]. The same procedure was then performed on the corn of the left little toe and the left hallux callus [4]. Neosporin ointment was applied with simple dressings.

The patient tolerated the procedure well. He was instructed on foot care and is to call me with if there are any problems.

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[1] The diagnosis of painful corns and calluses on his feet.

[2] Procedure to remove corn on the right little toe.

[3] Procedure to remove the callus of the right hallux.

[4] Procedure to remove the callus of the left hallux.

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What are the CPT® and ICD-10-CM codes reported?

CPT® Code: 11056

ICD-10-CM Code: L84

Rationales:

CPT®: Look in the CPT® Index for Paring/Skin Lesion/Benign Hyperkeratosis which directs you to code range 11055–11057. Report 11056 for 2 to 4 lesions.

ICD-10-CM: In the ICD-10-CM Alphabetic Index for Corn which directs you to code L84. Next, look in the ICD-10-CM Alphabetic Index for Callus which also directs you to code L84. Verify code selection in the Tabular List.