
Documentation Dissection

EXAM: US Abdomen complete ^[1].

INDICATION FOR PROCEDURE: History Hepatitis C ^[2].

TECHNIQUE: Sonographic evaluation of the upper abdomen is performed. No comparison studies.

FINDINGS: The visualized portions of the liver and pancreas are homogeneous in echotexture ^[3]. The right kidney measures 12.3 x 4.9 cm, and the left kidney measures 13.6 x 6.7 cm and contains a parapelvic 12 mm cyst ^[4]. No hydronephrosis identified. The visualized portions of the spleen are homogeneous.

The gallbladder is absent. No intra or extrahepatic ductal dilatation identified; the common bile duct measures 4.6 mm in diameter. Hepatopetal flow is seen in the portal vein. The maximal diameter of the abdominal aorta is 19 mm. The visualized portions of the inferior vena cava are patent ^[5].

IMPRESSION

1. A tiny left renal parapelvic cyst ^[6].
2. Status post cholecystectomy without biliary dilatation identified.
3. The liver is homogeneous in echotexture.

^[1] The planned exam.

^[2] Diagnosis to support medical necessity for the ultrasound.

^[3] This means that all of the visualized portions look the same.

^[4] Documentation of cyst found on left kidney.

^[5] This means that the vena cava is open and flowing.

^[6] Definitive findings from ultrasound.

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

CPT® Code: 76700

ICD-10-CM Codes: N28.1, Z86.19

Rationales:

CPT®: Look in the CPT Index for Ultrasound/Abdomen 76700-76705. Reading the descriptions of the codes shows 76705 is a limited exam while 76700 reports the complete procedure. 76700 is used for a complete abdominal exam. The note does not indicate that only the interpretation or imaging were performed so we will not append modifiers, but instead bill this as a global procedure.

ICD-10-CM: In the ICD-10-CM Alphabetic Index, look for Cyst/kidney. Because there is no further entry for parapelvic, look at N28.1. In the Tabular List, N28.1 is the most appropriate code. Next, look in the Alphabetic Index for History/personal/hepatitis/type C Z86.19. Verification in the Tabular List confirms this is the most specific code to use. It is for other infectious and parasitic diseases that do not have a specific code.