

## Shoulder Revision (23473, 23474)

**CPT® Assistant.**

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### THEN

Before 2013, the removal component of the shoulder revision procedure was reflected in code 23331, Removal of foreign body, shoulder; deep (eg, Neer hemiarthroplasty removal), and code 23332, Removal of foreign body, shoulder; complicated (eg, total shoulder), and was reported separately. The June 1996 CPT Assistant article, Coding Consultation, Musculoskeletal, 23332, 23472 (p 10), provided the following reporting instruction related to removing a shoulder implant.

**Question:** How is the removal of a 'total shoulder' implant with replacement with a new implant coded?

**Answer:** Report 23332 for removal of the implant and 23472 for the arthroplasty and insertion of a new total shoulder implant. Use modifier 51 with code 23332 because it is the lesser of the two procedures.

### NOW

Additional codes were added to the CPT 2013 code set in response to a need to provide greater clarity to report the simultaneous removal and replacement of an artificial implant, which was placed in a previous total shoulder arthroplasty. Two new total shoulder revision codes, 23473 and 23474, describe the revision of a total shoulder arthroplasty, which includes the removal of an artificial implanted prosthesis (ie, humeral and/or glenoid component[s]) and the replacement with a new implanted prosthesis in the same shoulder at the same time.

● 23473

Revision of total shoulder arthroplasty, including allograft when performed; humeral **or** glenoid component

● 23474

humeral **and** glenoid component

▶(Do not report 23473, 23474 in conjunction with 23331, 23332 if a prosthesis [ie, humeral and/or glenoid component(s)] is being removed and replaced in the same shoulder)◀

The removal of the prosthesis is included in codes 23473 and 23474, as indicated by the parenthetical note following codes 23331, 23332, 23473, and 23474. Therefore, codes 23331 and 23332 should not be reported together with codes 23473 and 23474. The term revision in the new code descriptors refers to the removal of a prosthesis and replacement with a new prosthesis at the same time. ◆