

FAQ: Surgery: Nervous System

CPT® Assistant.

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Question: What is the appropriate code to report hand digital nerve repair/reconstruction with a 2-cm nerve allograft? Should this be reported with code 64890, Nerve graft (includes obtaining graft), single strand, hand or foot; up to 4 cm length, appended with modifier 52, Reduced Services, or would this be reported using code 64910, Nerve repair; with synthetic conduit or vein allograft (eg, nerve tube), each nerve?

Answer: Code 64890 refers to a nerve graft harvested and used for nerve repair in the same patient. Code 64910 is used to report repair with a synthetic tube or vein allograft. There is no specific CPT code to report repair using a nerve allograft (eg, cadaver graft). Therefore, the correct code to report would be 64999, Unlisted procedure, nervous system.

Question: When the physician transects the anterior interosseous nerve and the posterior interosseous nerve, can code 64772, Transection or avulsion of other spinal nerve, extradural, be reported for each nerve?

Answer: Yes, the procedure described involves different nerves in different locations which are accessed through different incisions. Therefore, code 64772 may be reported for each of the nerves.