

Q&A-Surgery: Musculoskeletal System

CPT® Assistant.

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Question: Would it be appropriate to separately report codes 23430 and 23472 if these procedures were performed on an ipsilateral shoulder?

Answer: Yes, it would be appropriate to separately report code 23430, Tenodesis of long tendon of biceps, when bicep tendonesis is performed in conjunction with the services represented by code 23472, Arthroplasty, glenohumeral joint; total shoulder (glenoid and proximal humeral replacement (eg, total shoulder)), because biceps tenodesis is not included in code 23472.

Question: Would it be appropriate to report code 29105 for the application of a double sugar-tong arm splint?

Answer: Yes, it would be appropriate to report code 29105, Application of long arm splint (shoulder to hand), if the sugar-tong splint crosses two or more joints. A double sugar-tong splint consists of two U-shaped splints that go around the elbow—one fitting onto the forearm and the other fitting onto the upper arm. Double sugar-tong splints are most used for fractures to the radius, ulna, and olecranon process near the elbow. They prevent motion of the elbow and wrist.