

Eli's Rehab Report

Screening or Full Evaluation? Here's How to Tell

Knowing the difference between a screening versus a full evaluation could make a sizeable difference in your reimbursement check. A screening is typically not a billable service, says Nancy Swigert, MA, CCC-SLP, BRS-S, director of speech-language pathology & respiratory care at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington, KY.

Example: If you're assessing an adult with a voice disorder, the appropriate code would be 92524, and if you perform instrumental and acoustic analyses, 92520. "Just listening to conversational speech and determining that no articulation errors are present would not constitute a speech sound production evaluation," Swigert says. "That would be a screening of speech sound production, in which case the 92522 should not be used."