

## Pathology-related CPT Coding Inquiries

PathLab Coding Solution's Coding Consultant services are limited to inquiries having to do with determining the most appropriate CPT code(s) for a given case, based upon the documentation provided. Each inquiry submitted must contain only one brief and unambiguous case that addresses one specific pathology-related CPT coding issue but does not include any patient identifying information (e.g., name or social security number). An electronic or fax copy of the relevant pathology report with patient-identifying information redacted should be submitted with the question in order to ensure accuracy of the response. You agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless PSA and its shareholders, directors, employees, agents and representatives against all claims, losses or liabilities arising out of or in connection with your failure to redact such patient-identifying information from any communication to PSA.

**Examples of *valid* inquiries include:** which CPT code or codes are appropriate for a given case based upon the documentation provided; the appropriate unit of measurement (specimen, section, etc.) and the number of units for each CPT; use of modifiers for CPT coding; and appropriate coding for quality and performance measures (PQRI).

**Examples of *invalid* inquiries include** but are not limited to: Diagnosis (ICD-9) coding; place of service coding; billing related inquiries, such as handling denied claims (other than confirming appropriate CPT coding based on documentation provided); and inquiries with non-specific or insufficient documentation to make a CPT coding determination. Upon receipt of an invalid or incomplete pathology CPT coding inquiry, PSA will inform Subscriber that the inquiry is invalid or inappropriate and direct Subscriber to resubmit its inquiry, and provide appropriate suggestions to assist Subscriber in forming a valid inquiry.

PSA will respond to queries on a first come first served basis. Please allow 1-2 business days for routine responses. Inquiries submitted after PSA's normal business hours will not be processed until the next business day. Complex inquiries involving extensive research time or submitted to the PSA CPT Advisory Committee for review may require longer response times. In such cases PSA endeavors to provide you with a status of the request within 2 business days.

Your subscription allows you to submit a specified number of queries. Coding case inquiries can only be purchased as part of a subscription agreement and can not be purchased individually. To purchase additional cases will require the subscriber to renew a one year subscription agreement. Unused inquiries are forfeited upon expiration of your subscription term and do not roll-over to any subscription renewal term.

This Service is only related to pathology/laboratory CPT coding and does not provide assistance with inquiries related to ICD-9-CM, HCPCS (except as may be required by Medicare for reporting of certain pathology/laboratory procedures) or third party payer policy and reimbursement.