



Coding For Ulcer Debridement

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APMA Coding Committee

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11040 / 11041

- Deleted from CPT
- Do not use them.....
 - Ever
- Replaced by 97597 / 97598
- January 1, 2011

97602

- Removal of devitalized tissue from wound(s), non-selective debridement, without anesthesia (eg, wet-to-moist dressings, enzymatic, abrasion) including topical application(s), wound assessment, and instruction(s) for ongoing care, per session
- Non sharp debridement
- For nurses / facility
- No RVU assignment for physician

Code choice based on deepest depth to which you debride

- Dermis
- SubQ
- Muscle / Fascia
- Bone

97597

- Debridement of open wound to level of epidermis/dermis total wound surface area less than or equal to 20 square centimeters
- Debridement defined as:
 - high pressure waterjet with or without suction
 - sharp selective debridement with scissors, scalpel, and forceps
- Debridement should involve removal of:
 - fibrin, devitalized epidermis and/or dermis, exudate, debris, biofilm

Examples

- Remember TOTAL Wound Surface Area
- One ulcer 4cm x 4cm debrided to dermis:
 - 97597 one unit
- Two ulcers: first 2cm x 2cm, second 4cm x 4cm both debrided to dermis
 - 97597 one unit
- Three ulcers: 2cm x 2cm, 3cm x 2cm, 2cm x 2cm all three debrided to dermis
 - 97597 one unit

97598

- Add-on code to 97597
- To be used if wound over 20 sq. cm
- Debridement of open wound to level of epidermis / dermis each additional 20 square centimeters
- Used WITH 97957
- No 51 modifier on 97598 with 97597
- Never to be used alone

Examples

- One ulcer 5 x 5 sq. cm
 - 97597 one unit
 - 97598 one unit
- Two ulcers: first 4 x 4, second 4 x 3 sq. cm
 - 97597 one unit
 - 97598 one unit

Examples cont...

- Two ulcers: first 5 x5, second 5 x 4
 - 97597 one unit
 - 97598 2 units
- One ulcer 75 sq. cm
 - 97597 one unit
 - 97598 3 units

97597/97598

- Fall under Medicare consolidated billing
- Will not get paid if patient is in a facility on a Medicare Part A stay
- Can try to contract with facility....good luck!

11042/11045

- 11042: Debridement to subcutaneous tissue first 20sq. cm or less total
- 11045: Add-on code: Debridement to subQ each additional 20sq. Cm.
- Includes epidermis and dermis with it

11043/11046

- 11043: Debridement to muscle/fascia first 20sq. cm or less total
- 11046: Add-on code: Debridement to muscle/fascia each additional 20sq. Cm.
- Includes epidermis and dermis and subQ with it
- Big jump in reimbursement from 11042
- Submit Pathology!

11044/11047

- 11044: Debridement to bone first 20sq. cm or less total
- 11047: Add-on code: Debridement to bone each additional 20sq. Cm.
- Includes epidermis and dermis and subQ and muscle/fascia with it
- Submit Pathology!

All options together

- 97597 up to 20 sq. cm Epidermis/Dermis
 - 97598 each addl. 20 sq cm
- 11042 up to 20 sq. cm. SubQ
 - 11045 each addnl. 20 sq. cm
- 11043 up to 20 sq. cm. Muscle/Fascia
 - 11046 each addnl. 20 sq. cm
- 11044 up to 20 sq. cm Bone
 - 11047 each addnl. 20 sq. cm

Choose correct code

- Code based on depth of tissue actually debrided, not the depth of the wound
- Sq. cm. used is amount of tissue debrided, not the size of the ulcer

Examples

- Ulcer is 6cm x 5cm to depth of dermis and you debride 4cm x 4cm of tissue to dermis:
 - 97597
- Ulcer is 6cm x 6cm to depth of bone and you debride 4cm x 3cm of it to subQ
 - 11042

Two ulcers

- If at same depth, one code for total sq. cm. debrided at that depth
- If debrided at different depths then can use two codes

Examples

- One ulcer debride 2cm x 2cm to dermis and another debride 6cm x 6cm to muscle.


97597 – 59 mod

11043

11046

Included in debridement

- Dressing change
- Local care training
- Topicals applied



Novitas 2017 Part B Physician Fee Schedule Non-Facility

- 97597: \$81.73
- 11042: \$126.93
- 11043: \$249.05
- 11044: \$343.86

- All have Zero day global

Check Your LCD

- 11043 / 11044: Need to send pathology?
- 11043 / 11044: Place of service?



Documentation

- Different plans and different LCD's may have different requirements.
- You are responsible to know
- We're talking about outpatient documentation requirements

Some LCDs Require

- Document medical necessity of debridement AKA why you are doing it....
 - Decrease risk of infection
 - Promote healing
 - Limb salvage
- Medical Diagnosis
- Anesthesia, if used

Some LCDs Require

- Wound size(s) in sq. cm.
- Depth of wound
- Square cm. of tissue debrided
- Depth of tissue debrided
- Drainage
- Color
- Absence / presence of necrotic tissue

Some LCDs Require

- Vascularity
- Op Report
- Patient specific goals
- Wound better or worse?

Some LCDs Require

- Texture
- Temperature
- Condition of Surrounding Tissue
- Presence or absence of infection
- Location of ulcer
- Presence or absence of Undermining/Tunneling



Some LCDs Require

- Instrument used
- Dressings used
- Immediate post-debridement care
- Instructions
- Methods of offloading
- Complicating factors/Comorbidities

Photograph?



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DIAGNOSIS CODING

Ulcer options

- **L97-** Non-pressure chronic ulcer of lower limb, not elsewhere classified
 - Diabetic foot ulcers go here!
- **L89-** Pressure ulcer

Stasis ulcer options

- **183.0-** Varicose veins of lower extremities with ulcer
- **183.2-** Varicose veins of lower extremities with both ulcer and inflammation



Arterial ulcer options

- **I70.23-** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration
- **I70.24-** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration
- **I70.26-** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of extremities with gangrene

“Wound” versus “Ulcer”

- **S91.0-** Open wound of ankle
- **S91.1-** Open wound of toe without damage to nail
- **S91.2-** Open wound of toe with damage to nail
- **S91.3-** Open wound of foot

Ulcer options

- **L97- Non-pressure chronic ulcer of lower limb, not elsewhere classified**
 - **Diabetic foot ulcers go here!**
- **L89- Pressure ulcer**

What type of ulcer is it?

- Pressure Ulcer = ulcer from pressure
- Diabetic Foot Ulcer = ulcer on diabetic patient
- Arterial Ulcer = ulcer from lack of blood

"Diabetic Ulcers v Pressure Ulcers; So, What Do You Call It?",
Arthur Stone, DPM and Mary Sieggreen, MSN,CNS,NP,CVN)
from the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel

DFU Coding

Type 2 diabetic patient with a chronic diabetic left lateral midfoot ulcer with necrosis of muscle. The patient takes insulin on a daily basis.

ICD-10-CM

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sort by code

- ☆ **R29.2** Abnormal reflex (e.g., knee, Achilles, or plantar foot) [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **S90.51-** Abrasion (ankle) [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **S90.51-** Abrasion (ankle), (also code L08.89 or L08.9) with infection [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **S90.81-** Abrasion (foot) [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **S90.81-** Abrasion (foot) (also code L08.89 or L08.9) with infection [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **S80.81-** Abrasion (lower leg) [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **S80.81-** Abrasion (lower leg), (also code L08.89 or L08.9) with infection [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **S90.41-** Abrasion (toe) [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **S90.41-** Abrasion (toe) (also code L08.89 or L08.9) with infection [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **M86.17-** Abscess (bone) (acute), ankle and foot [\[ICD-9 \] Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)

- L97.423

- Non-pressure chronic ulcer of left heel and midfoot with necrosis of muscle

4+ L97 Non-pressure chronic ulcer of lower limb, not elsewhere classified

Includes: chronic ulcer of skin of lower limb NOS

non-healing ulcer of skin

non-infected sinus of skin

trophic ulcer NOS

tropical ulcer NOS

ulcer of skin of lower limb NOS

Code first any associated underlying condition, such as:

any associated gangrene (I96)

atherosclerosis of the lower extremities (I70.23-, I70.24-, I70.33-, I70.34-, I70.43-, I70.44-, I70.53-, I70.54-, I70.63-, I70.64-, I70.73-, I70.74-)

chronic venous hypertension (I87.31-, I87.33-)

diabetic ulcers (E08.621, E08.622, E09.621, E09.622, E10.621, E10.622, E11.621, E11.622, E13.621, E13.622)

postphlebitic syndrome (I87.01-, I87.03-)

postthrombotic syndrome (I87.01-, I87.03-)

varicose ulcer (I83.0-, I83.2-)

Excludes2: pressure ulcer (pressure area) (L89.-)

skin infections (L00-L08)

specific infections classified to A00-B99



DISCLAIMER

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Feedback / Suggestion:

Safari

Submit

E10.52	Gangrene, with diabetes type 1 angiopathy
E10.61-	Diabetes mellitus, type I, with diabetic arthropathy
E10.62-	Diabetes mellitus, type I, with skin complications
E10.621	Diabetes mellitus, type I, with foot ulcer
E10.622	Diabetes mellitus, type I, with other skin ulcer
E10.65	Diabetes mellitus, type I, with hyperglycemia
E10.8	Diabetes mellitus, type I, with unspecified complications
E10.9	Diabetes mellitus, type I, without complications
E11.4-	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with neurological complications
E11.42	Diabetes mellitus, type 2, with diabetic polyneuropathy
E11.42	Polyneuropathy, diabetic, type 2
E11.5-	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with circulatory complications
E11.52	Gangrene, with diabetes type 2 angiopathy
E11.61-	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with diabetic arthropathy
E11.62-	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with skin complications
E11.621	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with foot ulcer
E11.622	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with other skin ulcer
E11.65	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with hyperglycemia
E11.69	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with other specified complication
E11.8	Diabetes mellitus, type II, with unspecified complications
E11.9	Diabetes mellitus, type II, without complications

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5+ **E11.6** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other specified complications

6+ **E11.61** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic arthropathy

E11.610 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic neuropathic arthropathy

Inclusion Term: Type 2 diabetes mellitus with Charcôt's joints

E11.618 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other diabetic arthropathy

6+ **E11.62** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with skin complications

E11.620 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic dermatitis

Inclusion Term: Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic necrobiosis lipoidica

E11.621 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer

Use additional code to identify site of ulcer (L97.4-, L97.5-)

E11.622 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other skin ulcer

Use additional code to identify site of ulcer (L97.1-L97.9, L98.41-L98.49)

E11.628 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other skin complications

6+ **E11.63** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with oral complications

E11.630 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with periodontal disease

E11.638 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other oral complications

6+ **E11.64** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hypoglycemia

E11.641 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hypoglycemia with coma

E11.649 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hypoglycemia without coma

E11.65 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperglycemia

E11.69 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other specified complication

Use additional code to identify complication

E11.8 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with unspecified complications

- E11.621
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer

**E10.9** Type 1 diabetes mellitus without complications**4+** **E11** Type 2 diabetes mellitus

*Includes: diabetes (mellitus) due to insulin secretory defect
diabetes NOS
insulin resistant diabetes (mellitus)*

Use additional code to identify control using:

insulin (Z79.4)
oral antidiabetic drugs (Z79.84)
oral hypoglycemic drugs (Z79.84)

*Excludes1: diabetes mellitus due to underlying condition (E08.-)
drug or chemical induced diabetes mellitus (E09.-)
gestational diabetes (O24.4-)
neonatal diabetes mellitus (P70.2)
postpancreatectomy diabetes mellitus (E13.-)
postprocedural diabetes mellitus (E13.-)
secondary diabetes mellitus NEC (E13.-)
type 1 diabetes mellitus (E10.-)*

5+ **E11.0** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperosmolarity

E11.00 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperosmolarity without nonketotic hyperglycemic-hyperosmolar coma (NKHHC)
E11.01 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with hyperosmolarity with coma

5+ **E11.2** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with kidney complications

E11.21 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic nephropathy

*Inclusion Term: Type 2 diabetes mellitus with intercapillary glomerulosclerosis
Type 2 diabetes mellitus with intracapillary glomerulonephrosis
Type 2 diabetes mellitus with Kimmelstiel-Wilson disease*

E11.22 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with diabetic chronic kidney disease

Use additional code to identify stage of chronic kidney disease (N18.1-N18.6)

E11.29 Type 2 diabetes mellitus with other diabetic kidney complication

Inclusion Term: Type 2 diabetes mellitus with renal tubular degeneration

5+ **E11.3** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with ophthalmic complications

6+ **E11.31** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with unspecified diabetic retinopathy



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5+ **Z79.0** Long term (current) use of anticoagulants and antithrombotics/antiplatelets

Excludes2: long term (current) use of aspirin (Z79.82)

Z79.01 Long term (current) use of anticoagulants

Z79.02 Long term (current) use of antithrombotics/antiplatelets

Z79.1 Long term (current) use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAID)

Excludes2: long term (current) use of aspirin (Z79.82)

Z79.2 Long term (current) use of antibiotics

Z79.3 Long term (current) use of hormonal contraceptives

Inclusion Term: Long term (current) use of birth control pill or patch

Z79.4 Long term (current) use of insulin

5+ **Z79.5** Long term (current) use of steroids

Z79.51 Long term (current) use of inhaled steroids

Z79.52 Long term (current) use of systemic steroids

5+ **Z79.8** Other long term (current) drug therapy

6+ **Z79.81** Long term (current) use of agents affecting estrogen receptors and estrogen levels

Code first , if applicable:

malignant neoplasm of breast (C50.-)

malignant neoplasm of prostate (C61)

DFU Coding

Type 2 diabetic patient with chronic diabetic left foot lateral midfoot ulcer with necrosis of muscle. The patient takes insulin on a daily basis.

- **E11.621** Type 2 diabetes mellitus with left foot ulcer
- **Z79.4** Long term (current) use of insulin
- **L97.423** Non-pressure chronic ulcer of left heel and midfoot with necrosis of muscle

DFU Documentation

ICD 9

Chronic Midfoot ulcer in Type 2 diabetic

ICD 10

Chronic, non-pressure left midfoot ulcer with necrosis of muscle in a type 2 diabetic with long term insulin use

Arterial Ulcers

PAD

- **I70.231** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of thigh
- **I70.232** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of calf
- **I70.233** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of ankle
- **I70.234** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of heel and midfoot
- **I70.235** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of right leg with ulceration of other part of foot
- **Use additional code to identify severity of ulcer (L97.-)**

PAD

- **I70.241** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of thigh
- **I70.242** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of calf
- **I70.243** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of ankle
- **I70.244** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of heel and midfoot
- **I70.245** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of left leg with ulceration of other part of foot
- **Use additional code to identify severity of ulcer (L97.-)**

Gangrene

- **I70.261** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of extremities with gangrene, right leg
- **I70.262** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of extremities with gangrene, left leg
- **I70.263** Atherosclerosis of native arteries of extremities with gangrene, bilateral legs

- **Use additional code to identify the severity of any ulcer (L97.-, L98.49-), if applicable**

**89 year old non-diabetic nursing home
patient with unstageable right heel
pressure ulcer**

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Feedback / Suggestion:

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ICD-10 Quick Index

Sort Alphabetically by Code

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- ☆ **M86.17-** Abscess (bone) (acute), ankle and foot [ICD-9] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **M86.19** Abscess (bone) (acute), multiple sites [ICD-9] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **M86.16-** Abscess (bone) (acute), tibia and fibula [ICD-9] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **M86.67-** Abscess (bone) (chronic), ankle and foot [ICD-9] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ **M86.69** Abscess (bone) (chronic), multiple sites [ICD-9] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)

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- ☆ [L97.5-](#) Ulcer (except pressure ulcer), chronic, of other part of foot [[ICD-9](#)] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ [L97.8-](#) Ulcer (except pressure ulcer), chronic, of other part of lower leg [[ICD-9](#)] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ [L97.5-](#) Ulcer (except pressure ulcer), chronic, of toe(s) [[ICD-9](#)] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ [E10.621](#) Ulcer, foot, diabetic, type 1 (use additional code: L97-; L98.4-) [[ICD-9](#)] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ [E11.621](#) Ulcer, foot, diabetic, type 2 (use additional code: L97-; L98.4-) [[ICD-9](#)] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
- ☆ [I83.0-](#) Ulcer, varicose vein, of lower extremity [[ICD-9](#)] [Show ICD-10 Shortcut](#)
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5+ **L89.6** Pressure ulcer of heel

6+ **L89.60** Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel

L89.600 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, unstageable

L89.601 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 1

Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 1

Pressure pre-ulcer skin changes limited to persistent focal edema, unspecified heel

L89.602 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 2

Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 2

Pressure ulcer with abrasion, blister, partial thickness skin loss involving epidermis and/or dermis, unspecified heel

L89.603 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 3

Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 3

Pressure ulcer with full thickness skin loss involving damage or necrosis of subcutaneous tissue, unspecified heel

L89.604 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 4

Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, stage 4

Pressure ulcer with necrosis of soft tissues through to underlying muscle, tendon, or bone, unspecified heel

L89.609 Pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, unspecified stage

Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel NOS

Healing pressure ulcer of unspecified heel, unspecified stage

6+ **L89.61** Pressure ulcer of right heel

L89.610 Pressure ulcer of right heel, unstageable

L89.611 Pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 1

Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 1

Pressure pre-ulcer skin changes limited to persistent focal edema, right heel

L89.612 Pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 2

Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 2

Pressure ulcer with abrasion, blister, partial thickness skin loss involving epidermis and/or dermis, right heel

L89.613 Pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 3

Inclusion Term: Healing pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 3

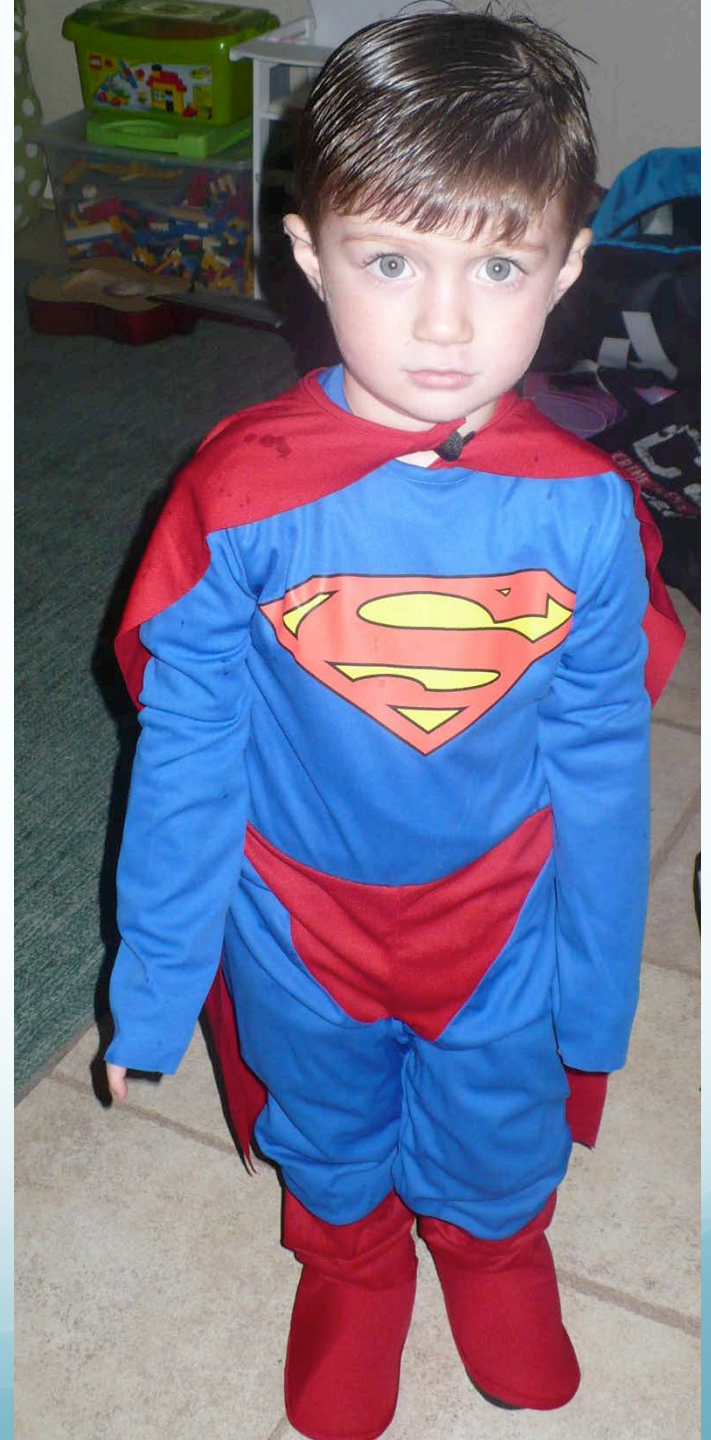
Pressure ulcer with full thickness skin loss involving damage or necrosis of subcutaneous tissue, right heel

L89.614 Pressure ulcer of right heel, stage 4

L89.610

Pressure ulcer of right heel,
unstageable

Thank You!!





Coding For Ulcer Debridement

Jeffrey D. Lehrman, DPM, FASPS, MAPWCA

APMA Coding Committee

Expert Panelist, Codingline

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