



**THE CODING NETWORK, LLC**  
*Confidential Coding Review For*  
**Cardiothoracic Surgery Audit**



Patient: #2:	Date of Service: 05/22/2008	Physician: X
<p><u>Original Coding</u>                      RVUs</p> <p>33863..... 84.45</p> <p>33430..... 73.78</p> <p>33530..... 13.44</p> <p><b>Total ..... 171.67</b></p>	<p><u>The Coding Network</u>                      RVUs</p> <p>33430-22..... 92.22                            (25% RVU for increased services)</p> <p>33406..... 76.76</p> <p>33530..... 13.44</p> <p>93314-26..... 1.80</p> <p><b>Total..... 184.22</b></p> <p><i>Difference..... -12.55 undervalued</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wrong code x 2:</b> This was not a graft repair of an aneurysm (33863). The billable codes are the mitral valve replacement and aortic valve replacement. The AVR was a homograft (allograft) replacement, CPT 33406.</li> <li>• <b>Modifier:</b> The MVR included reconstruction of the annulus and fibrous body with a hemashield graft which is considered increased services (33430-22).</li> <li>• <b>Missed billable service:</b> TEE (93314-26) is mentioned. Supervision and interpretation may be billed if performed by the surgeon.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>421.0 Acute and subacute bacterial endocarditis</p> <p>424.0 Mitral valve disorders</p> <p>424.1 Aortic valve disorders</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>424.0 Mitral valve disorders</p> <p>424.1 Aortic valve disorders</p> <p>421.0 Acute and subacute bacterial endocarditis</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Correct.</b></li> </ul>

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Patient #3:	Date of Service: 04/23/2008	Physician: X																																
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<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>414.01 Atherosclerosis of native coronary artery  412 Old myocardial infarction  433.10 Carotid artery occlusion and stenosis  272.4 Unspecified hyperlipidemia</p>	<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>414.01 Atherosclerosis of native coronary artery  412 Old myocardial infarction  879.6 Open wound of unspecified parts of trunk, without complication  338.12 Acute postoperative pain</p>	<p align="center"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Missing diagnosis codes x 2:</b> Linking codes for 15430 (879.6) and 32999 (338.12) are needed.</li> <li>• <b>Wrong diagnosis codes x 2:</b> ICD-9 code 433.10 is not necessary as the CEA was done separately. 272.4 is redundant with 414.01.</li> </ul>																																

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Patient: #4	Date of Service: 04/30/2008	Physician: X																
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>212.7 Benign neoplasm, heart</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>212.7 Benign neoplasm, heart</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Correct.</b></li> </ul>																

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Patient: #5	Date of Service: 04/23/2008	Physician: X																						
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>424.1 Aortic stenosis  427.31 Atrial fibrillation  424.0 Mitral regurgitation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>424.1 Aortic stenosis  427.31 Atrial fibrillation  424.0 Mitral regurgitation  440.0 Atherosclerosis of the aorta</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Missing diagnosis code:</b> The aortic endarterectomy will need a linked diagnosis code, 440.0.</li> </ul>																						

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Patient: #6	Date of Service: 4/22/2008	Physician: X																								
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Original Coding</th> <th style="text-align: right; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">RVUs</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>32095 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21600 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21810 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total.....</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>43.53</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Original Coding	RVUs	32095 .....	16.52	21600 .....	13.98	21810 .....	13.03	<b>Total.....</b>	<b>43.53</b>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">The Coding Network Coding</th> <th style="text-align: right; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">RVUs</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>32095 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16.52</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21600 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21805-22 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8.02</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">(25% RVU for increased services)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total .....</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>38.52</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b><i>Difference.....</i></b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b><i>+ 5.01 upcoded</i></b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	The Coding Network Coding	RVUs	32095 .....	16.52	21600 .....	13.98	21805-22 .....	8.02	(25% RVU for increased services)		<b>Total .....</b>	<b>38.52</b>	<b><i>Difference.....</i></b>	<b><i>+ 5.01 upcoded</i></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Wrong code:</b> This was clearly an open procedure with a stated internal fixation. 21810 is for external fixation. Suggest 21805 with modifier -22 for increased services of internal fixation.</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>807.02 Closed fracture, two ribs</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>807.02 Closed fracture, two ribs</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Correct.</b></li> </ul>																								

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Patient: #7	Date of Service: 05/02/2008	Physician: X																				
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>150.1 Malignant neoplasm, thoracic esophagus  783.21 Loss of weight</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>199.0 Disseminated malignant neoplasm  150.1 Malignant neoplasm, esophagus  783.21 Loss of weight</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wrong diagnosis code:</b> A dx code linked to 43820 must be used (199.0).</li> </ul>																				

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Patient: #8	Date of Service: 05/09/2008	Physician: X														
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<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>512.8 Other spontaneous pneumothorax</p> <p>515 Post-inflammatory pulmonary fibrosis</p>	<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>512.9 Other spontaneous pneumothorax</p> <p>515 Post-inflammatory pulmonary fibrosis</p>	<p align="center"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Correct.</b></li> </ul>														

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Patient: #9	Date of Service: 04/17/2008	Physician: X																		
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<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>162.5 Malignant neoplasm of bronchus or lower lobe of lung</p>	<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>162.5 Malignant neoplasm of bronchus or lower lobe of lung</p>	<p align="center"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Correct.</b></li> </ul>																		

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Patient: #10	Date of Service: 04/17/2008	Physician: X																								
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Original Coding</u></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>RVUs</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>33533 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">52.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>33517 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15430 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">12.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total.....</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>70.61</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Original Coding</u>	<u>RVUs</u>	33533 .....	52.72	33517 .....	4.96	15430 .....	12.93	<b>Total.....</b>	<b>70.61</b>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>The Coding Network Coding</u></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><u>RVUs</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>33533 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">52.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>33517 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15430 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">12.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>93314-26 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total.....</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>72.41</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><i>Difference.....-1.80 undervalued</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>The Coding Network Coding</u>	<u>RVUs</u>	33533 .....	52.72	33517 .....	4.96	15430 .....	12.93	93314-26 .....	1.80	<b>Total.....</b>	<b>72.41</b>	<i>Difference.....-1.80 undervalued</i>		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Missed billable service:</b> TEE (93314-26) is mentioned. Supervision and interpretation may be billed if performed by the surgeon.</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>iDiagnoses</u></p> <p>414.00 Atherosclerosis of coronary artery, unspecified  411.1 Unstable angina  V12.54 Transient ischemic attack  401.9 Essential hypertension</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>414.01 Atherosclerosis of native coronary artery  411.1 Unstable angina  879.6 Open wound of trunk, without complication</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Missing diagnosis code:</b> Code that links to 15430 must be used. Suggest 879.6</li> <li>• <b>Incorrect diagnosis code:</b> The diseased coronary arteries are clearly specified in the op report. Thus the correct Dx code is 414.01.</li> </ul>																								

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Patient: #11	Date of Service: 06/11/2008	Physician: X																																				
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>414.01 Atherosclerosis of native coronary vessel</p> <p>745.5 Ostium secundum atrial septal defect</p> <p>411.1 Intermediate coronary syndrome</p> <p>428.0 Congestive heart failure</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>414.01 Atherosclerosis of native coronary artery</p> <p>745.5 Ostium secundum atrial septal defect</p> <p>338.12 Acute postoperative pain</p> <p>879.6 Other unspecified parts of trunk, without mention of complication</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Missing diagnosis codes x 2:</b> Dx codes are needed to link with 15430 (879.6); 32999 (338.12).</li> </ul>																																				

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Patient: #12:	Date of Service: 04/24/2008	Physician: X																												
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Patient #13:	Date of Service: 06/23/2008	Physician: X														
<table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>Original Coding</u></td> <td align="right"><u>RVU's</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>31631 .....</td> <td align="right">6.29</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b> .....</td> <td align="right"><b>6.29</b></td> </tr> </table>	<u>Original Coding</u>	<u>RVU's</u>	31631 .....	6.29	<b>Total</b> .....	<b>6.29</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>The Coding Network Coding</u></td> <td align="right"><u>RVU's</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>31631 .....</td> <td align="right">6.29</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b> .....</td> <td align="right"><b>6.29</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Difference</i> .....</td> <td align="right"><i>0.00</i></td> </tr> </table>	<u>The Coding Network Coding</u>	<u>RVU's</u>	31631 .....	6.29	<b>Total</b> .....	<b>6.29</b>	<i>Difference</i> .....	<i>0.00</i>	<p align="center"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Correct.</b></li> </ul>
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<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>519.19 Other diseases of trachea and bronchus  162.9 Malignant neoplasm of bronchus or lung, unspecified site  V12.51 Venous thrombosis and embolism</p>	<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>162.9 Malignant neoplasm of bronchus or lung, unspecified site</p>	<p align="center"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Order of diagnosis:</b> The only linking code for 31631 is 162.9. Thus it should be the principal diagnosis, i.e., dx #1. The others are not relevant.</li> </ul>														

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Patient: #14	Date of Service: 06/03/2008	Physician: X																
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Patient: #15	Date of Service: 07/11/2008	Physician: X																
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<u>Original Coding</u>	<u>RVU's</u>																	
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Patient: #16	Date of Service: 06/13/2008	Physician: X																		
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<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>786.6 Swelling, mass or lump in chest  244.0 Postsurgical hypothyroidism</p>	<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>786.6 Swelling, mass or lump in chest  196.0 Secondary and unspecified neoplasm of lymph nodes of head, face or neck</p>	<p align="center"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Missing diagnosis code.</b> 196.0 links with 38724.</li> </ul>																		

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**Cardiothoracic Surgery Audit**



Patient: #17	Date of Service: 05/27/2008	Physician: X														
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;"><u>Original Coding</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>RVUs</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>43200 .....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.74</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total .....</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>2.74</b></td> </tr> </table>	<u>Original Coding</u>	<u>RVUs</u>	43200 .....	2.74	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2.74</b>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;"><u>The Coding Network Coding</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>RVUs</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>43215-78.....</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total .....</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>4.06</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><i>Difference ..... -1.32 undervalued</i></td> </tr> </table>	<u>The Coding Network Coding</u>	<u>RVUs</u>	43215-78.....	4.06	<b>Total .....</b>	<b>4.06</b>	<i>Difference ..... -1.32 undervalued</i>		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wrong code:</b> This was a diagnostic esophagoscopy (43200). It included removal of a foreign object (43215).</li> <li>• <b>Modifier:</b> This procedure was done within the 90 day global of the previous esophageal repair, and thus modifier -78 should be used.</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>510.0 Empyema with fistula</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>935.1 Foreign body in esophagus</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wrong diagnosis code:</b> A dx code linked to 43815 must be used (935.1).</li> </ul>														

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Patient: #18	Date of Service: 05/06/2008	Physician: X																												
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Patient: #19	Date of Service: 05/21/2008	Physician: X																				
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Patient: #20	Date of Service: 04/22/2008	Physician: X																						
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<p align="center"><u>iDiagnoses</u></p> <p>414.01 Atherosclerosis of native coronary vessel  413.9 Other and unspecified angina  429.9 Heart disease, unspecified  585.6 End stage renal disease</p>	<p align="center"><u>Diagnoses</u></p> <p>414.01 Atherosclerosis of native coronary vessel</p>	<p align="center"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Correct.</b> No need for all the extra dx codes in a straightforward case like this.</li> </ul>																						