

Mastering Your Chargemaster Participant Questions



Question

Disposable drill bits for surgery?
Non billable?



Question

What happens to those with a Fiscal year which is out of synch with a calendar year? Do we still have to effect changes at beginning of the year?



Question

How do we set a price for a new service?



Question

Can you charge for a specialty bed for obesity if facility has to rent one?



Response

Drill bits are considered part of a piece of equipment and are not chargeable.



Response

Regardless of your fiscal year-end, CPT/HCPCS changes become effective at the beginning of the calendar year. So, you still need to have any changes required to implement new or revised CPT's on January 1.



Response

Each case will be different, but it should involve a team effort among the clinical leaders, coding, CDM, and billing. Things to consider are: What you are charging for similar services, if any; what are payers paying for the service; what other hospitals in your area are charging; and what is your cost for the service. If the new service involves the use of new products, the product vendor may have some resources. While helpful, vendor guidance should be taken with a grain of salt.



Response

No. Patient beds are considered equipment and are part of the routine charges for a patient stay. There is no difference whether you purchase or rent the equipment.