

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT)

V. 6.0 Technical Manual

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Introduction

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes are used for reporting medical services and procedures performed by physicians. Their purpose is to provide a uniform language that will accurately describe medical, surgical, and diagnostic services, thereby providing an effective means for reliable nationwide communication among physicians, patients, and third parties. This system of terminology is the most widely accepted nomenclature for the reporting of physician procedures and services under government and private health insurance programs.

CPT V. 6.0 provides the software to update the CPT files. The software includes all CPT codes to code outpatient services for reimbursement and workload purposes (as determined by the American Medical Association) and the Common Procedure Coding System from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCPCS). These codes may also be utilized to report inpatient services in certain instances.

The CPT Technical Manual has been divided into major sections for easy use and is intended to be a reference document. While you are free to review the entire document, it is best used by selecting specific sections which contain the information sought for a particular need.

Implementation and Maintenance

There are no site-configurable features connected with the CPT package.

Total disk space requirements for the ICPT global is 23.3 megabytes.

Integrity Checker

CPT V. 6.0 uses the KIDS integrity checker. Under the installation option of the Kernel Installation Distribution System Menu, select “Verify Checksums in Transport Global” to ensure that the routines are correct.

Routines

Callable Routines

Listed below are the available APIs.

EXTRINSIC FUNCTION CALLS

CPT Code Basic Information

\$\$\$CPT^ICPTCOD(CODE,CDT,SRC,DFN)

Input: CODE - CPT/HCPCS code, internal or external format (Required)
 CDT - date to check status for, FileMan format (default =
 TODAY)
 If CDT is prior to 1/1/1989, 1/1/1989 will be used
 If CDT is year only, the first of that year will be used
 If CDT is month and year only, the first of the month
 will be used
 If CDT is later than today, validation will be performed
 using the newest activation and inactivation dates
 SRC - screen source
 If '\$G(SRC)', check Level I and II codes only
 If '\$G(SRC)', check Level I, II, and III codes
 DFN - not in use but included in anticipation of future need

Output: string: ien^CPT code^short name^category ien^source^effective
 date^status^inactivation date^activation date^msg

where the pieces are:

- 1 internal entry number of code in ^ICPT
- 2 CPT CODE (.01 field)
- 3 SHORT NAME (#2 field)
- 4 CATEGORY ien (#3 field)
- 5 SOURCE code (#6 field) C:CPT; H:HCPCS; L:VA LOCAL
- 6 EFFECTIVE DATE (from field #60 multiple)
- 7 STATUS (from .02 of #60 multiple) where 0:inactive; 1:active
- 8 INACTIVATION DATE (from .01 of #60 multiple)
- 9 ACTIVATION DATE (from .01 of #60 multiple)
- 10 MSG (a message stating: CODE TEXT MAY BE INACCURATE)

or

-1^error description

CPT Code Long Description

\$\$CPTD^ICPTCOD(CODE,OUTARR,DFN,CDT)

Input: CODE - CPT/HCPCS code, internal or external format (Required)
 OUTARR - array name to store description (default =
 ^TMP("ICPTD",\$J))
 DFN - not in use but included in anticipation of future need
 CDT - date to screen against - not used currently, included in
 anticipation of future need, FileMan format (default =
 TODAY)
 If CDT is prior to 1/1/1989, 1/1/1989 will be used
 If CDT is year only, the first of that year will be used
 If CDT is month and year only, the first of the month
 will be used
 If CDT is later than today, TODAY will be used

Output: # - number of lines in description
 @OUTARR(1:n) - description (lines 1 through n)
 @OUTARR(n+1) - blank
 @OUTARR(n+1) - a message stating: CODE TEXT MAY BE INACCURATE

 or
 -1^error description

Modifiers for a Code

\$\$CODM^ICPTCOD(CODE,OUTARR,SRC,CDT,DFN)

Input: CODE = CPT/HCPCS code, internal or external format (Required)
 OUTARR = array name for list returned (default =
 ^TMP("ICPTM",\$J))
 SRC = source screen
 If 0 or Null, check Level I and II code/modifiers only
 If >0, check Level I, II, and III code/modifiers
 CDT = date to check modifier status, Fileman format
 If 0 or Null, return all the modifiers for a code
 Else return only modifiers active on the date of CDT
 If CDT is prior to 1/1/1989, 1/1/1989 will be used
 If CDT is year only, the first of that year will be used
 If CDT is month and year only, the first of the month
 will be used
 If CDT is later than today, validation will be performed
 using the newest activation and inactivation dates
 DFN = not in use but included in anticipation of future need

Output: # of modifiers that apply
 OUTARR array in the format: OUTARR(mod) = name^mod ien
 (mod is the .01 field)

 or
 -1^error description

Modifier Basic Information

\$\$MOD^ICPTMOD(MOD,MFT,MDT,SRC,DFN)

Input: MOD - modifier, internal or external format (Required)
 MFT - modifier format
 "I" = ien
 "E" = .01 field (Default)
 MDT - date to check status for, FileMan format (default =
 TODAY)
 If MDT is prior to 1/1/1989, 1/1/1989 will be used
 If MDT is year only, the first of that year will be used
 If MDT is month and year only, the first of the month
 will be used
 If MDT is later than today, validation will be performed
 using the newest activation and inactivation dates
 SRC - source screen
 If 0 or Null, check Level I and II modifiers only
 If >0, check Level I, II, and III modifiers
 DFN - not in use but included in anticipation of future need

Output: String: ien^modifier^name^code^source^effective date^status
 ^inactivation date^activation date^msg

where the pieces are:

- 1 internal entry number
- 2 MODIFIER (.01 field)
- 3 NAME (.02 field)
- 4 CODE (.03 field) alternate 5-digit code for CPT modifiers
- 5 SOURCE (.04 field) C:CPT; H:HCPCS; V:VA NATIONAL
- 6 EFFECTIVE DATE (from multiple field 60)
- 7 STATUS (.02 field of multiple field 60) where 0:inactive;
1:active
- 8 INACTIVATION DATE (from .01 of #60 multiple)
- 9 ACTIVATION DATE (from .01 of #60 multiple)
- 10 MSG (a message stating: CODE TEXT MAY BE INACCURATE)

or

-1^error description

Code/Modifier Pairs

\$\$MODP^ICPTMOD(CODE,MOD,MFT,MDT,SRC,DFN)

Input: CODE - CPT/HCPCS code, internal or external format (Required)
 MOD - modifier, internal or external format (Required)
 MFT - modifier format
 "I" = ien
 "E" = .01 field (Default)
 MDT - date to check against, FileMan format (default = TODAY)
 If MDT is prior to 1/1/1989, 1/1/1989 will be used
 If MDT is year only, the first of that year will be used
 If MDT is month and year only, the first of the month
 will be used
 If MDT is later than today, validation will be performed
 using the newest activation and inactivation dates
 SRC - source screen.
 If 0 or Null, check Level I and II code/modifiers only
 If >0, check Level I, II, and III code/modifiers
 DFN - not in use but included in anticipation of future need

Output: 0, if pair is unacceptable

 or
 IEN in 81.3^MODIFIER name (.02 field), if pair is acceptable

 or
 -1^error message

Code's IEN

\$\$CODEN^ICPTCOD(CODE)

Input: CODE - CPT/HCPCS code (Required)

Output: ien of code

IEN's Code

\$\$CODEC^ICPTCOD(CODE)

Input: CODE - ien of CPT/HCPCS code (Required)

Output: CPT/HCPCS code

Activation/Inactivation Period

PERIOD^ICPTAPIU(CODE,ARY)

Input: CODE - CPT/HCPCS code, or Modifier (Required)
ARY - Array, (passed by Reference)

Output: ARY(0) = string: ien^selectable

where the pieces are:

1 internal entry number of code in ^ICPT or ^DIC(81.3,
2 0:unselectable; 1:selectable

ARY(activation date) = inactivation date^short text

where short text is:

SHORT NAME (#2 field) for CPT/HCPCS codes
NAME (#.02 field) for Code Modifiers

Category Name

\$\$CAT^ICPTAPIU(CAT,DFN)

Input: CAT - category ien (Required)
DFN - not in use but included in anticipation of future need

Output: String: CATEGORY NAME^SOURCE (C or H)^MAJOR CATEGORY IEN^MAJOR
CATEGORY NAME

or
-1^error message

Codes Distribution Date

\$\$CPTDIST^ICPTAPIU

Input: none

Output: DISTRIBUTION DATE of current CPT

Copyright Information

\$\$COPY^ICPTAPIU

Input: none

Output: CPT copyright information

Routines to Map

The ICPT routines are not recommended for mapping.

Routine List

Steps to obtain routines contained in the CPT package.

1. Programmer Options Menu
2. Routine Tools Menu
3. First Line Routine Print Option
4. Routine Selector: **ICPT***

Files

The CPT data dictionaries may not be modified. The file descriptions of these files will be so noted.

Globals to Journal

There are no globals to journal in the CPT package.

File List

| <u>File #</u> | <u>File Name</u> | <u>Global</u> |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 81 | CPT | ^ICPT(|
| 81.1 | CPT CATEGORY | ^DIC(81.1, |
| 81.2 | CPT COPYRIGHT | ^DIC(81.2, |
| 81.3 | CPT MODIFIER | ^DIC(81.3, |

The following are the steps you may take to obtain information concerning the files and templates contained in the CPT package.

Templates

1. VA FileMan Menu
2. Print File Entries Option
3. Output from what File: **Print Template**
Sort Template
4. Sort by: **Name**
5. Start with name: **ICPT**
6. Within name, sort by: **<RET>**
7. First print field: **Name**

File Flow (Relationships between files)

1. VA FileMan Menu
2. Data Dictionary Utilities Menu
3. List File Attributes Option
4. Enter File # or range of File #s
5. Select Listing Format: **Standard**
6. You will see what files point to the selected file. To see what files the selected file points to, look for fields that say "POINTER TO".

Exported Options

The following are the steps you may take to obtain information concerning the menus and exported options contained in the CPT package.

Menu Diagrams

1. Programmers Options
2. Menu Management Menu
3. Display Menus and Options Menu
4. Diagram Menus
5. Select User or Option Name: **ICPT OUTPUT MENU**

Exported Options

1. VA FileMan Menu
2. Print File Entries Option
3. Output from what File: **OPTION**
4. Sort by: **Name**
5. Start with name: **ICPT**
6. Within name, sort by: **<RET>**
7. First print field: **Name**

Archiving and Purging

Archiving and purging capabilities are not applicable as the data is a national table.

External/Internal Relations

Minimums of VA FileMan V. 21.0, Kernel V. 8.0, PCE V. 1.0, and PIMS (MAS) V. 5.3 are required to run this package.

DBIA AGREEMENTS

The following are the steps you may take to obtain the database integration agreements for the CPT package.

DBIA Agreements - Custodial Package

1. FORUM
2. DBA Menu
3. Integration Agreements Menu
4. Custodial Package Menu
5. Active by Custodial Package Option
6. Select Package Name: **CPT**

DBIA Agreements - Subscriber Package

1. FORUM
2. DBA Menu
3. Integration Agreements Menu
4. Subscriber Package Menu
5. Print Active by Subscriber Package Option
6. Start with subscriber package: **CPT**

Package-wide Variables

There are no package-wide variables in the CPT package.

SACC Exemptions/Non-Standard Code

There are no SACC exemptions/non-standard code in the CPT package.

How to Generate On-Line Documentation

This section describes some of the various methods by which users may secure CPT technical documentation. On-line technical documentation pertaining to the CPT software, in addition to that which is located in the help prompts, may be generated through utilization of several Kernel options. These include XINDEX and VA FileMan List File Attributes. Further information about other utilities which supply on-line technical documentation may be found in the Kernel Reference Manual.

XIndex

This option analyzes the structure of a routine(s) to determine in part if the routine(s) adheres to **VistA** Programming Standards. The XINDEX output may include the following components: compiled list of errors and warnings, routine listing, local variables, global variables, naked globals, label references, and external references. By running XINDEX for a specified set of routines, the user is afforded the opportunity to discover any deviations from **VistA** Programming Standards which exist in the selected routine(s) and to see how routines interact with one another, that is, which routines call or are called by other routines.

To run XINDEX for the CPT package, specify the following namespace at the "routine(s) ?>" prompt: ICPT*. CPT initialization routines which reside in the UCI in which XINDEX is being run, as well as local routines found within the CPT namespace, should be omitted at the "routine(s)?>" prompt. To omit routines from selection, preface the namespace with a minus sign (-).

List File Attributes

This VA FileMan option allows the user to generate documentation pertaining to files and file structure. Utilization of this option via the "Standard" format will yield the following data dictionary information for a specified file(s): file name and description, identifiers, cross-references, files pointed to by the file specified, files which point to the file specified, input templates, print templates, and sort templates. In addition, the following applicable data is supplied for each field in the file: field name, number, title, global location, description, help prompt, cross-reference(s), input transform, date last edited, and notes.

Using the "Global Map" format of this option generates an output which lists all cross-references for the file selected, global location of each field in the file, input templates, print templates, and sort templates. For a comprehensive listing of CPT files, please refer to the Files section of this manual.

Security

General Security

The CPT data dictionaries may not be modified. The file descriptions of these files will be so noted.

Security Keys

There are no security keys in the CPT package.

Legal Requirements

The CPT codes are an American Medical Association (AMA) copyrighted product. Their use is governed by the terms of the agreement between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the AMA.

Printing of any CPT information that will be released external to the VA (excluding areas of billing/fee basis processing, administrative management, clinical management including research, and patient coding/summarizing) must include the following notice: "CPT five-digit codes and/or descriptions only are copyright 1988 AMA (or such other date or publication of the work as defined in the Berne Implementation Act of 1988, formerly the Copyright Revision Act of 1976)."

VA FileMan Access Codes

Below is a list of recommended VA FileMan access codes associated with each file contained in the CPT package. This list may be used to assist in assigning users appropriate VA FileMan access codes.

| <u>FILE NUMBER</u> | <u>FILE NAME</u> | <u>DD ACCESS</u> | <u>RD ACCESS</u> | <u>WR ACCESS</u> | <u>DEL ACCESS</u> | <u>LAYGO ACCESS</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 81 | CPT | @ | D | @ | @ | @ |
| 81.1 | CPT CATEGORY | @ | D | @ | @ | @ |
| 81.2 | CPT COPYRIGHT | @ | D | @ | @ | @ |
| 81.3 | CPT MODIFIER | @ | D | @ | @ | @ |

Glossary

| | |
|--------------|---|
| AMA | American Medical Association |
| CPT | Current Procedural Terminology |
| CPT Category | Category name associated with a specified CPT code. |
| HCFA | Health Care Financing Administration |
| HCPCS | Health Care Financing Administration's Common Procedure Coding System |
| VISTA | Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture |