What is a Global Surgical Package?

The global surgical package is the payment for a surgical procedure that includes pre-operative, intra-operative and post-operative services for major procedures.

Question:

Patient comes back in to see the surgeon 2 days prior to surgery to go over the risks, and signing of the consent. Patient is healthy and has no new issues. The surgeon would like to bill a pre-operative exam using CPT code 99212 with a chief complaint and diagnosis of “Pre-Op clearance”. Is this a billable service?

Answer: NO

If the surgeon sees a patient and makes a decision for surgery and then the patient returns for a visit where the intent of the visit is the preoperative H&P, and this service occurs in the interval between the decision-making visit and the day of surgery, regardless of when the visit occurs, the visit is not separately billable as it is included in the surgical package. (Codapedia Pre-Op Visits)

You can learn more about the global surgical package in the “Medicare Claims Processing Manual, pub. 100-04, chap. 12 sec. 40.1B”.

Happy Documenting and Coding!