

Hand Surgery Case Log Guidelines

Review Committees for Orthopaedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, and Surgery

The ACGME Case Log System allows hand surgery fellows to document the breadth of their surgical experience during the program and enables the ACGME Review Committees for Orthopaedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, and Surgery to monitor programs to ensure fellows have an adequate volume and variety of experiences in hand surgery. The defined hand surgery procedures/categories were last refined in 2010 as the result of a collaboration between the Review Committees and the American Society of the Hand (ASSH) hand surgery fellowship directors. A task force with representatives of these groups as well as with the leadership of the ASSH was formed in early 2019 to review the current procedures/categories and develop minimum number requirements for selected defined case categories that represent expectations for experience for all hand surgery fellows upon completion of the educational program—not the achievement of competence, the determination of which is the responsibility of the program director.

The task force reviewed deidentified graduate Case Log data for the four-year period from 2014-2015 to 2017-2018, reviewed the current CPT code mapping structure, and developed a list of proposed revised Case Log categories. This list was presented at the 2019 ASSH Fellowship Director Meeting. All hand surgery fellowship directors were then surveyed to refine the list of defined case categories and develop consensus on a minimum number of surgical procedures for each case category. Based on that feedback, the task force finalized the defined case categories and assigned CPT codes to each, identifying the subset of procedures within each case category that counts towards the required minimum case numbers. The task force also identified a minimum and maximum number of cases for each fellow; these numbers may include procedures not counted in a defined case category.

Expectations for recording CPT codes for each case were changed. Fellows should continue to enter all CPT codes representing their participation in each case. However, **one** code per case must be selected as the primary code. Some CPT codes may apply to two or three defined case categories. These are noted in the chart that follows in green and yellow. When entering such a CPT code, the fellow must select which of the available defined case categories best represents that surgical case. Program directors can monitor an individual fellow's progress towards achieving the minimums in each defined case category at any time by running the Hand Surgery Minimums Report in the Case Log System.

The cases entered by current fellows for academic year 2020-2021 were automatically reassigned to the appropriate new case category in October 2020. Fellows should review the new defined case categories/CPT code mapping table and run a Hand Surgery Minimums Report as soon as possible.

Contact the executive director of the appropriate Review Committee (Orthopaedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, or Surgery) with questions or concerns.

Defined Case Categories/Minimum Numbers: Hand Surgery

Defined Case Category (DCC)	Minimum	CPT Codes in Each Category												
Amputations	5	25900	25905	25907	25909	25920	25922	25924	25927	25929	25931	26910	26951	26952
Carpal tunnel decompression	20	29848	64721											
Extensor tendon repair	10	20924	25270	25272	25274	25280	26410	26412	26415	26416	26418	26420	26426	26428
		26432	26433	26434	26437	26476	26477							
Finger arthrodesis or arthroplasty	8	26530	26531	26535	26536	26841	26850	26852	26860	26861	26862	26863		
Fixation of metacarpal fractures	10	26546	26565	26568	26608	26615	26650	26665	26706	26715	26746			
Fixation of phalangeal fractures	12	26546	26567	26568	26727	26735	26746	26756	26765	26776	26785			
Flexor tendon repair	10	20924	25260	25263	25265	25280	26350	26352	26356	26357	26358	26370	26372	26373
		26390	26392	26478	26479									
Nerve repair	10	20802	20805	20808	20816	20822	20824	20827	26551	26553	26554	26556	64831	64832
		64834	64835	64836	64837	64856	64857	64859	64861	64872	64874	64876	64890	64891
		64892	64893	64895	64896	64897	64898	64901	64902	64905	64907	64910	64911	
ORIF/CREF distal radius fractures	12	25606	25607	25608	25609									
Scaphoid fracture	5	25430	25440	25628	25685									
Soft tissue reconstruction	18	14000	14020	14021	14040	14041	14350	15050	15100	15101	15110	15111	15115	15116
		15120	15121	15130	15131	15135	15136	15220	15221	15572	15574	15610	15620	15734
		15736	15740	15750	15756	15757	15758	20969	20970	20972	20973	26551	26553	26554
		26556	26560	26561	26562	26580	26587	26590	26596					
Tendon transfers	6	25310	25312	26485										
Thumb CMC reconstruction	16	25210	25445	25447										
Ulnar nerve decompression, with or without transposition	15	64718	64719											
Vascular repair	5	15756	15757	15758	20802	20805	20808	20816	20822	20824	20827	20955	20956	20962
		20969	20970	20972	20973	26551	26553	26554	26556	35045	35206	35207	35236	35266
		64820	64821	64822	64823									
Wrist arthrodesis, limited or complete	8	25800	25805	25810	25820	25825	25830							
Wrist arthroscopy	5	29840	29843	29844	29845	29846	29847							
Wrist Instability or dislocation	10	25107	25320	25337	25645	25670	25671	25676	25685	25695				

TOTAL Minimum # cases	250
TOTAL Maximum # cases	1,200

CPT codes assigned to two DCCs
CPT codes assigned to three DCCs: 26551, 26553, 26554, 26556