

Ministry of Health
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Registration and Claims
Branch

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Ministère de la Santé
et des Soins de longue
durée

Direction de l'inscription et
des
demandes de règlement

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November 18, 2011

London Health Sciences Ctre. – E.R.
Adults Victoria Site
800 Commissioners Rd. E.
Rm. E1-102
London, Ontario
N6A 4G5

RE: Group Billing Numbers – AA3D/AA3Q

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please be advised that for your billing purposes, in order to claim complex laceration codes Z187, Z188 and Z189, one of the Schedule of Benefits payment rules states that the time required to perform the actual repair procedure(s) must be separately documented in the medical record.

Physician Schedule Inquiries has quoted the following:

“The medical record time requirements are as stated, i.e. the time required to perform the actual repair procedure(s). The initial time seen and discharge time from the E.R. is not adequate documentation. The physician must record the time separately.”

Therefore, please note and apply as appropriate, the following payment rule as per page M13 of the Schedule of Benefits, **“For laceration repairs that do not meet the above criteria for a complex laceration repair, see Repair of Lacerations listings on page M12”**. Both Schedule of Benefits pages have been attached for your convenience. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact myself or your claims representative for further clarification.

Sincerely,

Lori Lipari
Assessment Office
London District Office

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM SURGICAL PROCEDURES

SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE

Asst

Surg

Anae

Zone 1 repair of digit

A complex repair of zone 1 of the digit is repair of an injury without soft tissue loss that requires a minimum of 20 minutes of time to perform the repair procedure.

Z189 Complex repair, digit, zone 1 repair, without soft tissue loss, per digit..... 92.30

Note:

1. Other repair fee codes are *not eligible for payment* in addition to Z189 for the same zone 1 injury.
2. For digit tip amputations or a zone 1 injury with soft tissue loss that would require advancement, graft or other surgical method of closure, see specific listings for surgical repair in the Integumentary System or Musculoskeletal System Surgical Procedures sections of this *Schedule*.

Payment rules:

1. Wound and ulcer debridement services, Z128, Z129, and Z114 are *not eligible for payment* in addition to Z187, Z188 or Z189 for the same repair.
2. Z187, Z188, and Z189 include removal of any foreign bodies in the wound, irrigation and debridement when rendered.
3. Plastic Surgery Procedure services (i.e. R150, R151, R152, R153 and R154) are *not eligible for payment* for any laceration repair.

Medical record requirements:

Z187, Z188, and Z189 are *only eligible for payment* where the minimum time requirements involved in the repair service are documented in the patient's permanent medical record. The time requirement includes time to perform the repair exclusive of time spent rendering any other separately billable service.

[Commentary:

For laceration repairs that do not meet the above criteria for a complex laceration repair, see Repair of Lacerations listings on page M11.]

Muscle repair

# R525	- Simple muscle repair(s) to include repair of involved skin	6	88.60	7
# R528	- Complex (see General Preamble GP8)	6	I.C	6

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM SURGICAL PROCEDURES

SKIN AND SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE

Asst

Surg

Anae

Repair of lacerations

Note:

Wound closure via tissue adhesives (such as cyanoacrylate) is payable at 50% of the appropriate fee.

Z176	- up to 5 cm	20.00	6
Z154	- up to 5 cm if on face and/or requires tying of bleeders and/or closure in layers	35.90	6
Z175	- 5.1 to 10 cm	35.90	6
Z177	- 5.1 to 10 cm if on face and/or requires tying of bleeders and/or closure in layers	71.30	6
Z179	- 10.1 to 15 cm	50.40	6
Z190	- 10.1 to 15 cm if on face and/or requires tying of bleeders and/or closure in layers	101.45	6
Z191	- more than 15.1 cm - other than face	77.30	6
Z192	- more than 15.1 cm - on face	154.95	7
E530	- if inhalation general anaesthesia (other than 50% N2O/O2 mixture) is used, when suture of laceration is sole procedure	50.40	
E531	- if extensive debridement is required (see General Preamble GP8)	I.C	
E542	- when performed outside hospital	11.15	
R024	- Acute laceration earlobe, unilateral	100.65	
UVC	- Removal of sutures only	visit.fee	

Complex laceration repair

Face

A complex laceration repair of the face is a repair that requires a minimum of 20 minutes of time to perform the repair procedure and at least one of the following:

- a. anatomical alignment of the vermilion border, eyebrow, eyelid or pinna;
- b. closure of three or more layers (muscle sheath, subcutaneous tissue, skin etc.); or
- c. ligation of multiple bleeding vessels.

Z187	Complex laceration repair, face	92.30	
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Anatomical area other than face (except zone 1 repair of digit)

A complex laceration repair of an anatomical area other than face is a repair that requires a minimum of 20 minutes of time to perform the repair procedure and at least one of the following:

- a. closure of three or more layers (muscle sheath, subcutaneous tissue, skin etc.); or
- b. ligation of multiple bleeding vessels.

Z188	Complex laceration repair, anatomical area other than face, (except digit, zone 1 repair)	92.30	
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