

Z187/8/9 – Complex Laceration Codes

Dec 2012

The Short Version

- **Z187 – Face.....\$92.30**
- **Z189 – Zone I repair of finger.....\$92.30**
- **Z188 – Anywhere else.....\$92.30**

R15X codes
are rejected in
the ED!

Billing Group Interpretation

To bill the **Z187** code you must do one of the three repairs listed below

- anatomical alignment of the vermillion border, eyebrow, eyelid, pinna
- three layer closures
- Ligation of multiple bleeders.

To bill the **Z188 (no Zone I finger or face)** you must do one of the 2 repairs listed below:

- three layer closure
- ligation of multiple bleeders

** All 3 codes require a minimum time requirement of **20 MINUTES** that **MUST** be documented!

Beware of the following traps!

- For facial lacerations > 10 cm on the face bill lac codes Z190/Z192 (*pays more*)
- Revision amputation of a distal phalanx? - bill R629 and not the Z189

Example:

Case: Monday 0130 am - 28 male – laceration through vermillion border. You assess the patient and repair the lip, taking 22 minutes of repair time.

Document: ED charting + Procedure note with times for repair (0135 – 0157 or 22 mins)

Blue Sheet Coding: **H123 + Z187 + E413**