

s 22

From: s 47F
Sent: Friday, 6 March 2020 9:33 AM
To: s 22
Cc: s 22
Subject: RE: HCP Prostheses Data - Billing codes unable to be found on the prostheses list [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s 22

Thank you very much for following that up for me – good to have confirmation that they do indeed relate to non-PL items.

Kind regards,
s 47F

From: s 22

Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 9:25 AM

To: s 22

Cc: s 22

s 47F

Subject: RE: HCP Prostheses Data - Billing codes unable to be found on the prostheses list [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s 47F

Please see the below response from HCF

Hi s 22

These codes are internal HCF codes where we have paid benefits for prosthesis items that are not on the prosthesis list -specifically these codes relate to:

P0152: Custom made endovascular graft

P0305: Custom made prostheses

P0574: Insulin Pumps replacements – not requiring hospitalisation - HST

Hope this helps.

Regards
s 47F

Relationship Manager - States & Key Clinical Groups

hcf.com.au



Kind regards

s 22

From: s 22

Sent: Thursday, 5 March 2020 2:57 PM

To: s 22

Cc: s 22

s 47F

Subject: RE: HCP Prostheses Data - Billing codes unable to be found on the prostheses list [SEC=OFFICIAL]

No worries s 47F

My colleague, s 22, has already begun following these codes up with the relevant funds.

Cheers,

s 22

s 22 | Geospatial and Hospital Analytics Section | Data and Analytics Branch | Health Economics & Research Division |
Department of Health | s 22

From: s 47F

Sent: Thursday, 5 March 2020 2:37 PM

To: s 22

Cc: s 22

s 47F

Subject: RE: HCP Prostheses Data - Billing codes unable to be found on the prostheses list [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s 22

Thank you for arranging to look into this further for me. I had compiled past versions of the list going back to August 2009 and I was unable to find these codes in any of those past versions which is what gave rise to the confusion. To add further to the confusion, the benefit per item for DT007 varies wildly, suggesting that there may be something else going on than a typical PL item.

Just a note that after today I will not be in the office and so will not have access to this email address. However, it would be helpful to know what the outcome is as part of our write-up. Would it be possible to include my EY email address in further responses, please? I have copied it into this reply, but you can reach me at

s 47F

Thanks again.

Kind regards,

s 47F

From: s 22

Sent: Thursday, 5 March 2020 10:12 AM

To: s 22

Cc: s 22

Subject: RE: HCP Prostheses Data - Billing codes unable to be found on the prostheses list [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s 22

I've asked a colleague to look into this further. I know that 999999 is a value we derive when a billing code cannot be located in our prostheses code look-up table. With those other codes, is it possible that have been discontinued and aren't in the current Prostheses List, although does seem peculiar that they are only related to a single fund?

s 22

Geospatial and Hospital Analytics Section | Data and Analytics Branch | Health Economics & Research Division |
Department of Health | s 22

From: s 22

Sent: Thursday, 5 March 2020 9:42 AM

To: s 22

Cc: s 22

s 47F

Subject: FW: HCP Prostheses Data - Billing codes unable to be found on the prostheses list [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s 22

In our working with the HCP1 prostheses usage data we have come across a number of billing codes which I have been unable to match to an item on the Prostheses List itself. I have followed this up but per the response below it seems that it is unclear what some of these codes specifically refer to and may require going back to the insurer or hospital themselves.

Some of these codes seem to have a considerable amount of payments against them so it would be good to know what this expenditure relates to. In particular, the following codes are of interest:

- **DT007** s 38
 - Seems to be only related to MPL
- **P0305** s 38
 - Seems to be only related to HCF
- **999999** s 38
 - Related to numerous insurers, though primarily MPL
- **P0574** s 38
 - Seems to be only related to HCF
- **P0152** s 38
 - Seems to be only related to HCF

Would it be possible to follow up further on these items to confirm what they relate to? Thanks very much again for all the help.

Kind regards,

s 22

From: s 22

Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2020 5:03 PM

To: s 22

Cc: s 47F

Subject: RE: HCP Prostheses Data - Billing codes unable to be found on the prostheses list [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s 22

I've been provided with the following response:

The quick answer to the question is that "billing codes" turn up in the HCP1 collection that are not found in the Prostheses List for a variety of reasons:

- Coding error by the hospital or insurer
- Insurer has paid benefits on an ex gratia basis and given the device an identifier of its own
- Who knows???

We usually have no need to check out what these codes relate to so we just ignore them. It would be good to be able to find out what the codes relate to that have significant benefits expenditure. You might want to check with the CASEMIX data people to see if they can track back through the data to find out where they originated (hospital or insurer) and then contact them to find out.

It's probably not the most helpful of responses – but it probably does explain why there is such a difference in billing codes. It may be that the '99999' wasn't a default or an error code, but rather somewhere along the line a convention was developed that if there was uncertainty, that's the code you should use.

Did you want to follow-up with the data team (s 22 & co), or do you want me to?

Kind regards,

s 22

Assistant Director

Prostheses Reform

Office of Health Technology Assessment | Technology Assessment and Access Division

Department of Health

s 22

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters where we live and work, and pay my respects to elders past, present and future.

From: s 22

Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2020 2:25 PM

To: s 22

Cc: s 47F

Subject: HCP Prostheses Data - Billing codes unable to be found on the prostheses list [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi s 22

Thank you for offering to follow up on this for me.

Since my last email, I realised that there were some instances of billing codes on the list that matched the pattern I described in my last email (e.g. A1004). However, there remain a decent number of codes that I am unable to match to a version of the Prostheses List (Parts A, B, or C). Overall, it is a minor issue but for the sake of covering all bases it would be good to understand what might be going on – especially for a couple of codes in particular.

I have attached to this email a summary of the billing codes I have been unable to match to the list as a reference – however, I am certainly not asking to have the full list clarified! There are just a few key questions that I am interested in having cleared up:

- What is the DT007 code? This had s 38 paid out for FY18/19 but I am unable to find it on the list and there seems to be a large variety in the benefit amounts being paid (suggesting that something else may be going on than a typical prostheses list item)
- Can I confirm that 99999 is a default 'error' or 'unknown' code? How does such a code arise?
- The only other codes I am unable to determine that have had considerable usage are P0305, P0574 and P0152 – do you know what these codes refer to?
- Is there anything else I should be aware of that might explain why the codes listed do not seem to appear on the Prostheses List but appear in the HCP1 Prostheses dataset?

Thanks very much

Kind regards,
s 22

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