

Encounter codes used in Dermatology are listed as follows:

Encounter codes should be used when screening a patient for a condition and the results are negative. Encounter codes are used for follow-up visits after *medical* or *surgical* treatment, and the treated condition is usually no longer clinically present.

Z01.82 Encounter for allergy testing Negative test results

Z08 Encounter for follow-up examination after completed treatment for malignant neoplasm Medical surveillance following completed treatment See below for Z48 for post-op care

Excludes1: aftercare following medical care (Z43-Z49, Z51)

Z08 a billable code. Code Z08 first followed by a six digit Z85 code from the following list.

Z85.818 Personal history of malignant neoplasm of other sites of lip, oral cavity, and pharynx

Z85.820 Personal history of malignant melanoma of skin

Conditions classifiable to C43 (malignant melanoma)

Z85.821 Personal history of Merkel cell carcinoma

Conditions classifiable to C4A (Merkel cell carcinoma)

Z85.828 Personal history of other malignant neoplasm of skin

Conditions classifiable to C44 (includes BCE, Sq. Cell Ca, sweat glands, sebaceous glands.

Excludes1: malignant neoplasm of skin of genital organs (C51-C52, C60.-, C63.2)

Z09 Encounter for follow-up examination after completed treatment for conditions other than malignant neoplasm a billable code, Code Z09 first followed by Z87.2.

Medical surveillance following completed treatment

Z87.2 Personal history of diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue

Conditions classifiable to L00-L99 (includes most skin conditions other than neoplasms)

Excludes2: personal history of diabetic foot ulcer (Z86.31)

Z11.51 Encounter for screening for human papillomavirus (HPV)

Z11.8 Encounter for screening for other infectious and parasitic diseases

code to use when screening for scabies or head lice

Z12 Encounter for screening for malignant neoplasms

Screening is the testing for disease or disease precursors in asymptomatic individuals so that early detection and treatment can be provided for those who test positive for the disease.

Use additional code to identify any family history of malignant neoplasm (Z80.-)

Z80.8 Family history of malignant neoplasm of other organs or systems classifiable to C00-C14, C40-C44 (skin cancer codes), C69-C79

Z12.81 Encounter for screening for malignant neoplasm of oral cavity

Z12.83 Encounter for screening for malignant neoplasm of skin

Code Z12.81 or Z12.83 first followed by Z80.8 (family history of malignant neoplasm) if applicable.

Note: My Medicare Carrier will not give me any information if an E&M code with a diagnosis of Z12.81 or Z12.83 is payable. Probably, these codes should not be used unless you want to do a test billing. A work around would be for the medical documentation to indicate the patient is concerned about a particular skin lesion(s) on the body such as *a pigmented lesion on the back*. Exam the lesions of concern and the rest of the skin. Describe in the medical record the lesions of concern, their

diagnosis, and recommendations and other lesions of interest. Bill using the ICD-10 code(s) for the lesions diagnosed

Z48 Post-Op Dermatology Encounters

Excludes1: encounter for follow-up examination after completed treatment (Z08-Z09)

Z48.0 Encounter for attention to dressings, sutures and drains

Excludes1: encounter for planned postprocedural wound closure (Z48.1)

Z48.00 Encounter for change or removal of nonsurgical wound dressing

Encounter for change or removal of wound dressing NOS

Z48.01 Encounter for change or removal of surgical wound dressing

Z48.02 Encounter for removal of sutures

Encounter for removal of staples

Z48.03 Encounter for change or removal of drains

Z48.3 Encounter for aftercare following surgery for neoplasm

Use additional code to identify the neoplasm

Z48.81 Encounter for surgical aftercare following surgery on specified body systems

These codes identify the body system requiring aftercare. They are for use in conjunction with other aftercare codes to fully explain the aftercare encounter. The condition treated should also be coded if still present.

Z48.817 Encounter for surgical aftercare following surgery on the skin and subcutaneous tissue

[Medicare Quick Reference Information: Preventive Services](#)

[CMS Information concerning covered preventive services](#)