FRACTURE CARE

ORTHOPEDIC INSTITUTE

Fracture care includes the treatment of the fracture, the first cast or splint application and all follow-up visits during the global period (except for any complications). Typically, global periods are 90 days beginning from the first date-of-service for care of the fracture. Fracture care is billed as a global service meaning there is one charge that includes various components of caring for your fracture. Please note: There are some supplies and/or services that are billable in addition to or are not included in fracture care (e.g., X-rays).

BILLING FOR FRACTURE CARE

All insurance companies require that our services are billed using a coding system known as CPT (Current Procedural Terminology). The codes used to describe the services performed are found in the surgery section of the CPT code book. This does not mean you had an operation, it's simply the category that the healthcare industry uses for fracture care billing. Your insurance explanation of benefits (EOB) may list our services as surgery. This is appropriate based on medical billing guideline standards.

According to CPT guidelines, fracture care is billed as a global service. Meaning, at the time of initial care, a bill is generated including:

- Treatment of the fracture
- First cast or splint application, if any (this does not include supplies)
- 90 days of normal, uncomplicated, follow-up care

Because fracture care requires specialized expertise, it can be costly. For closed treatment of fractures, charges typically range from $1230.00 to $2670.00. Your personal financial responsibility will vary based on your insurance coverage and your current out-of-pocket maximum status.

There are items that are not included in the global service. These services will be billed in addition to the fracture care code:

- Initial office visit or evaluation by the orthopedic surgeon
- X-rays (initial and all follow-up)
- Casting supplies and/or support/braces applied
    - Initial cast or splint, replacement cast
- Other non-fracture office visits (if you have other medical conditions discussed at the same office visit)
- Return visits to the operating room for complications

Your insurance may require office visit co-pays at each visit along with your standard insurance deductible and co-insurance.

Waterproof casting materials may not be covered by your insurance. Many health plans consider the application of this material a patient convenience rather than medically necessary. If your insurance denies this coverage, you will be responsible for paying this portion of the bill.

If you have any questions regarding your bill, feel free to contact our billing customer service line at (605) 331-5890 (press option 2), Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions about your medical care, please contact the physician's office where treatment was received. If you have questions about how your insurance plan will cover fracture care, please contact your insurance carrier.

If this is your first visit for your possible fracture, it can take up to a week to determine if you qualify for this program.

FOR QUESTIONS CALL (605) 331-5890 (for billing - press option 2)