Arterial & Venous Angiography

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Agenda

- Vascular IR Basics Review
- Arterial Angiography
  - Anatomy
  - Common Procedures
  - Coding Conventions
  - Case Studies
- Venous Angiography
  - Anatomy/Conventions
  - Case Studies
- Q&A

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Resources

- AMA
- CMS
- SIR
- ZHealth

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Vascular IR Basics Review

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Component Vs. Comprehensive Coding

Component Coding

- The surgical code and RS&I codes are billed separately.
  - Example: Inferior vena cavagram (36010, 75825)

Comprehensive Coding

- One code is used to represent the entire procedure.
  - Example: Arch aortogram (36221)

Always check CPT code and parenthetical notes to determine what is included in any given CPT code.

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Non-Selective or Selective

- Non-Selective Catheter Placement
  - Placement into vessel entered, aorta, vena cava, or AV fistula ONLY
- Selective Catheter Placement
  - Placement into a branch off the vessel entered, aorta, or vena cava
  - Each advancement off bifurcation=higher selectivity (order) vessel
  - Includes all non-selective placements and lesser order branches selected “along the way”
- You may not bill for a selective and non-selective at the same session unless there is a separate access.

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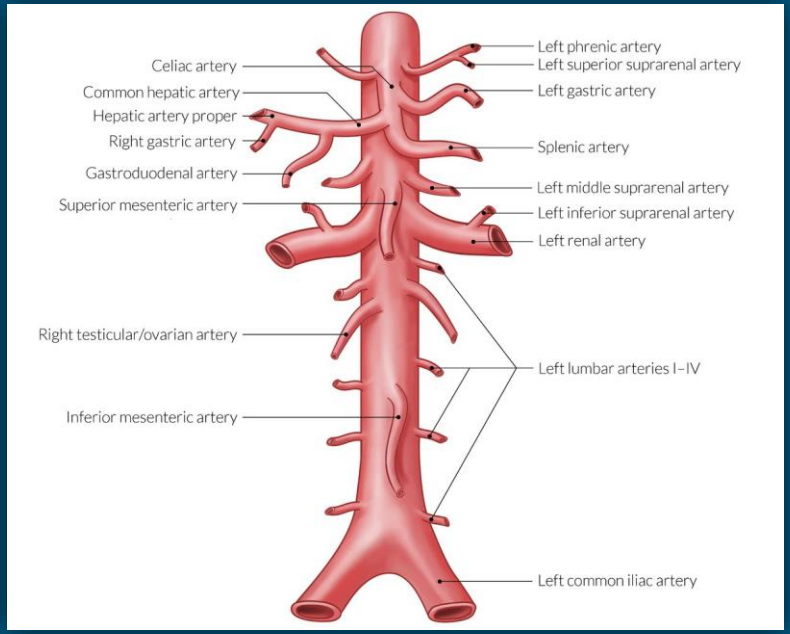
Vascular Family

- A VASCULAR FAMILY is a branch off the vessel entered, aorta, or vena cava
  - EXAMPLES:
    - Renal artery
    - Inferior mesenteric artery
    - Main vessels off the aortic arch
    - Contralateral common iliac



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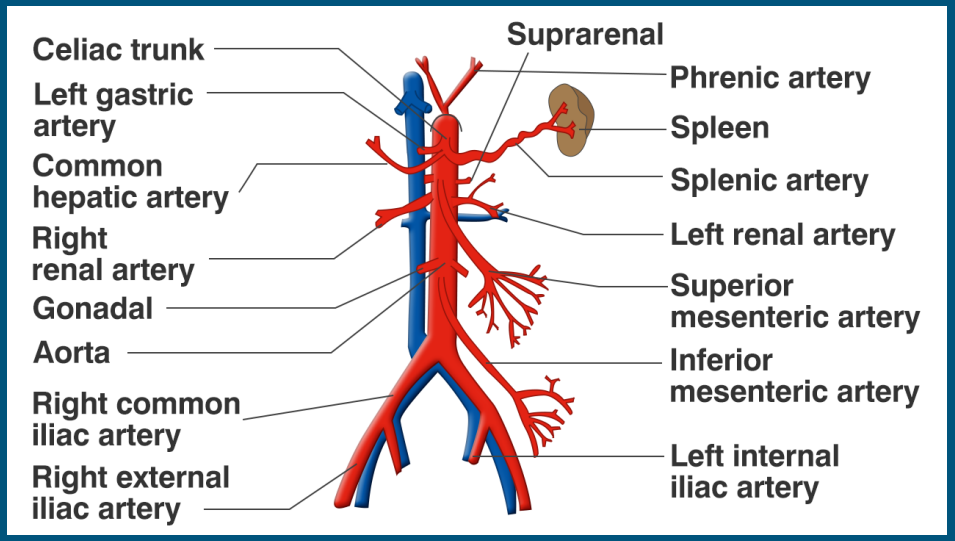
Order of Selectivity



- From the initial non-selective vessel (e.g. aorta) into a branch is called first order selection
- Each advancement off bifurcation=higher selectivity (order) vessel
- Code to highest selectivity within each vascular family
- Each additional selectivity within same vascular family with an add-on code

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Selective Catheter Codes

- Selective arterial codes are divided at the diaphragm.
  - Above the diaphragm: 36215-36217
    - Add-On 36218
  - Below the diaphragm: 36245-36247
    - Add-On 36248
- Venous: 36011-36012

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Catheter Placement Coding Tips

- Code for each vascular SYSTEM separately:
  - Arterial
  - Venous
  - Portal
  - Pulmonary
  - Lymphatic
- Code for each vascular family (branch off the main vessel) separately
- Code to the highest level catheter selection within each vascular family
- Once the catheter is placed selectively, drop non-selective code and all selections “on the way”
- Code for any additional selective second order, third order, and beyond within a vascular family
- Always confirm if catheter placement(s) is included the code

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Contrast & Images

- Determine vessels where contrast was injected
- Determine which vessels were imaged with a report of findings
- Determine if the imaging is diagnostic and medically necessary
- Always confirm if imaging is included in the code

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Additional Tips

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Angiography with Intervention

- If the patient has had a diagnostic angiogram (whether catheter-based or computed tomographic angiography (CTA) and is referred for intervention, a diagnostic angiogram is not separately reported.
- If, however, a diagnostic angiogram is clinically indicated it may be reported separately.
- Documentation must support the need for a repeat diagnostic angiogram, when performed.

Additional Selective Angiography-75774

- DESCRIPTION
  - 75774: Angiography, selective, each additional vessel studied after basic examination, radiological supervision and interpretation (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
- SELECTIVE ONLY
- Common utilization-visceral and lower extremity arteries
- Defining “basic” examination
- Venous System-*Q&A September 2022 CPT Assistant*

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Arterial Angiography

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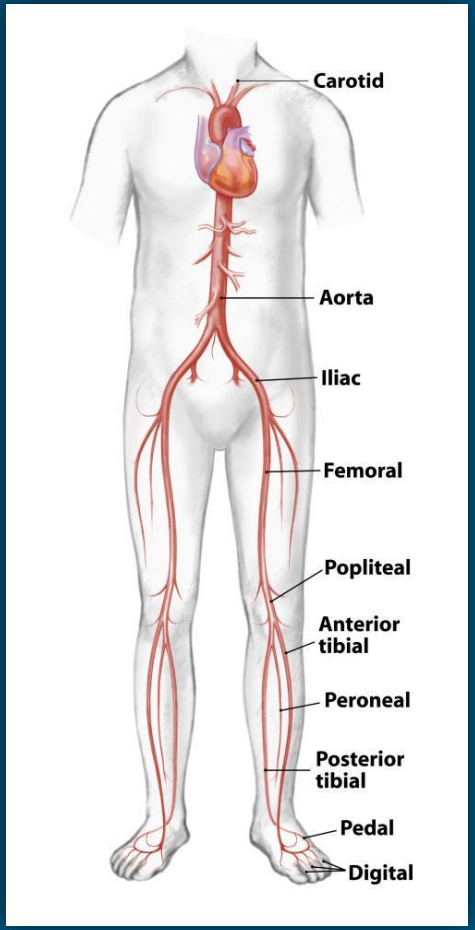
Arterial System

- Main Vessel-Aorta
- Common Access Point:
  - Common femoral artery
- Cath Selection Codes:
  - 36140-Nonselective extremity
  - 36200-Nonselective aorta
  - 36215-36218-Above diaphragm
  - 36245-36248-Below diaphragm
- Imaging Codes
  - Varies depending on body area



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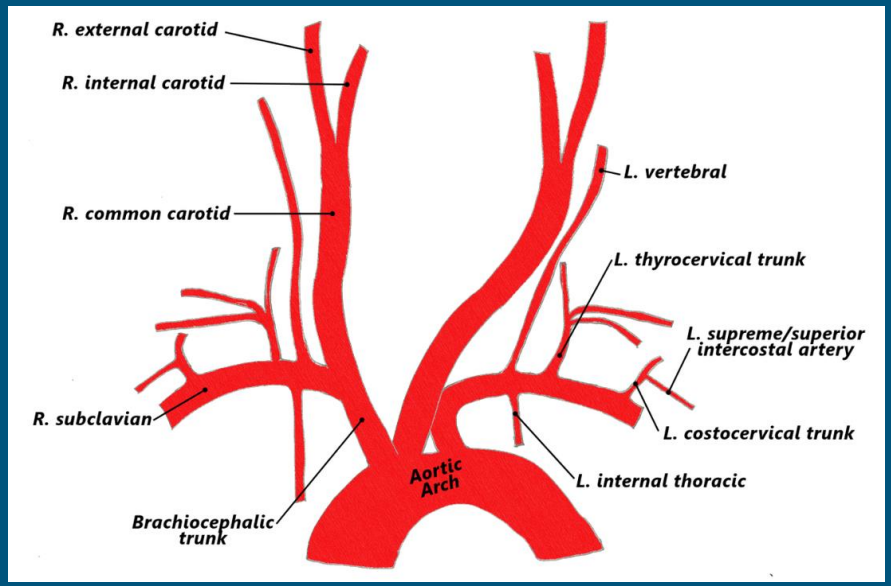
Cervicocerebral Angiography

- Arterial Vascular Anatomy
- Typically 3 vascular families
- 4 “territories”
  - Extracranial carotids
  - Intracranial carotids and branches
  - Vertebrals
  - External carotids and branches



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Cervicocerebral Angiography-Coding

- Comprehensive codes
- Codes are unilateral
- Codes have a hierarchy/building complexity:
  - 36221-NONSELECTIVE arch
  - 36222-SELECTIVE common carotid + extracranial imaging
  - 36223-SELECTIVE common carotid + intracranial imaging
  - 36224-SELECTIVE internal carotid + intracranial imaging
  - 36225-SELECTIVE subclavian + vertebral imaging
  - 36226-SELECTIVE vertebral + vertebral imaging
  - +36227-SELECTIVE external carotid + external carotid imaging
  - +36228-SELECTIVE each additional branch off the ICA or vertebral + imaging

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Cervicocerebral Angiography-Coding

- Codes include access, catheter placement, imaging/RS&I, closure device
- Codes do NOT include:
  - US guidance
  - Catheter placement/imaging in non-cervicocerebral arteries
  - Moderate sedation
  - Therapeutic interventions
- Cath selection codes 36215-36218 may be used during intervention if there is no diagnostic imaging

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Cervicocerebral Angiography- Case #1

From a right common femoral artery approach, the catheter is advanced through the abdominal aorta into the aortic arch where contrast is injected for arch aortogram and imaging. Catheter is then advanced into the left common carotid artery for selective imaging of the cervical carotid artery which demonstrates a 50% stenosis. Catheter is then pulled back and advanced to the brachiocephalic artery and further advanced into the right common carotid artery with contrast injection and imaging to the bifurcation. The right common carotid artery is normal.

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Cervicocerebral Angiography- Case #1

36222-50: Selective catheter placement, common carotid or innominate artery, unilateral, any approach, with angiography of the ipsilateral extracranial carotid circulation and all associated radiological supervision and interpretation, includes angiography of the cervicocerebral arch, when performed

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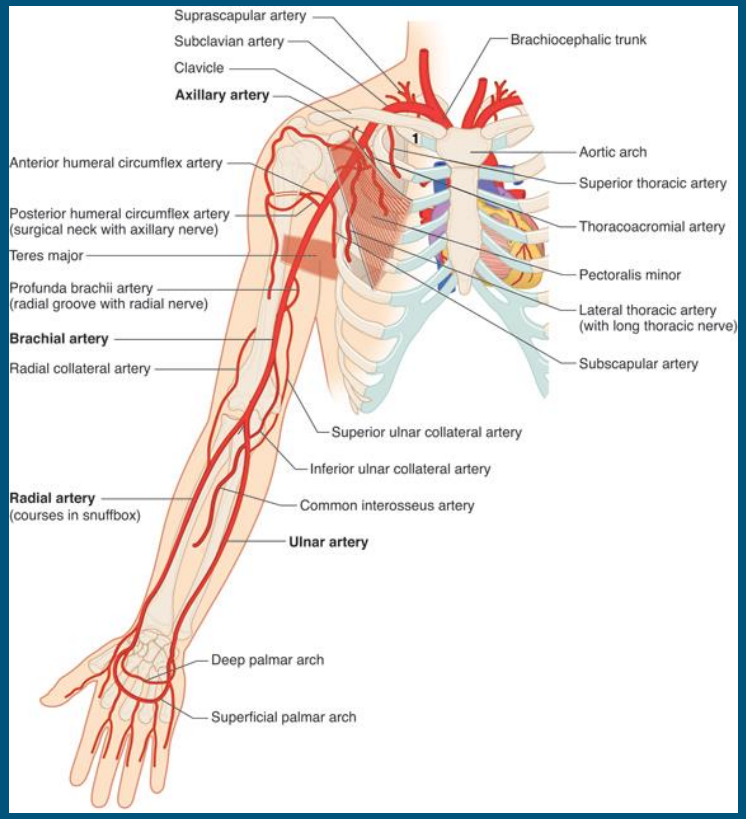
Upper Extremity

- Common Access Points:
  - Common Femoral
  - Retrograde Brachial
- Catheter selections
  - 36215-36218
- Diagnostic Imaging
  - 75710/75716



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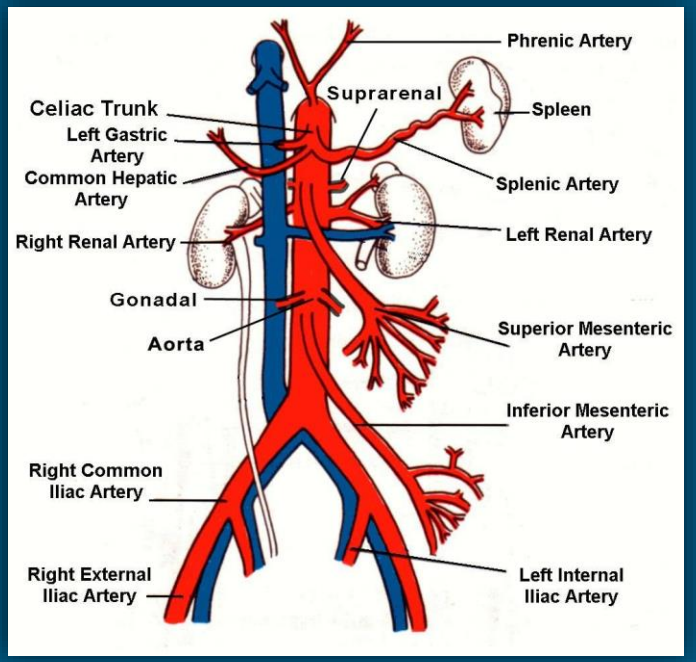
Abdominal Aortography

- Vascular Anatomy
- Common access point-Femoral
- Catheter placement:
  - 36160-translumbar
  - 36200
- Diagnostic Imaging:
  - 75625-Abdominal aortogram
  - 75630-Abdominal aortogram w/bilat iliofemoral runoff
  - 75710/75716-Extremity angiography
- Catheter positioning will impact which imaging codes to select



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Abdominal Aortography-Case #2

From a right common femoral artery approach, the catheter is advanced into the abdominal aorta to the level of the L1 vertebra. A full and complete abdominal aortogram obtained.

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Abdominal Aortography-Case #2

36200: Introduction of catheter, aorta

75625: Aortography, abdominal, by serialography, radiological supervision and interpretation

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Abdominal Aortography-Case #3

From a right common femoral artery approach, the catheter is advanced into the abdominal aorta at the level of the renal arteries. Abdominal aortogram with iliofemoral runoff performed.

Abdominal Aortography-Case #3

36200: Introduction of catheter, aorta

75630: Aortography, abdominal plus bilateral iliofemoral lower extremity, catheter, by serialography, radiological supervision and interpretation

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Abdominal Aortography-Case #4

From a right common femoral artery approach, the catheter is advanced into the suprarenal abdominal aorta with imaging. Catheter was then pulled down to the aortic bifurcation with imaging of the aortoiliac circulation and runoff through the level of the bilateral ankles.

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Abdominal Aortography-Case #4

36200: Introduction of catheter, aorta

75625: Aortography, abdominal, by serialography, radiological supervision and interpretation

75716: Angiography, extremity, bilateral, radiological supervision and interpretation

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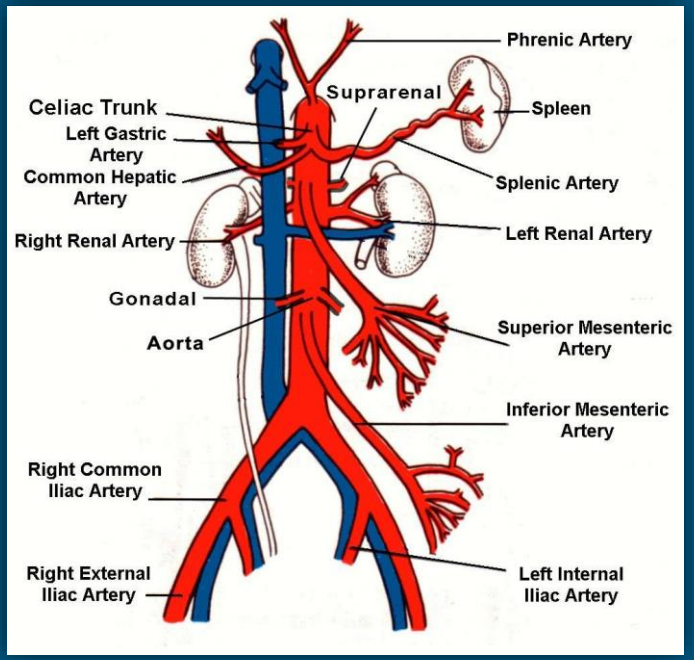
Renal Angiography

- Vascular Anatomy
- Comprehensive
  - 36251-36252-Selective (1st order)
  - 36253-36254-Superselective (2nd order-beyond)
  - Unilateral/Bilateral
- Inclusive of:
  - Selection of accessory arteries
  - Aortogram
  - All RS&I
- Only used with diagnostic angiograms
  - Cath placements only for intervention would use 36245-36247



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Renal Angiography-Case #5

Right common femoral access; Catheter is advanced into the abdominal aorta for abdominal aortogram. Catheter is then placed selectively into the left and right renal arteries and subsequently into an accessory right renal artery. Bilateral renal angiogram demonstrates no significant stenosis.

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Renal Angiography-Case #5

36252: Selective catheter placement (first-order), main renal artery and any accessory renal artery(s) for renal angiography, including arterial puncture and catheter placement(s), fluoroscopy, contrast injection(s), image postprocessing, permanent recording of images, and radiological supervision and interpretation, including pressure gradient measurements when performed, and flush aortogram when performed; bilateral

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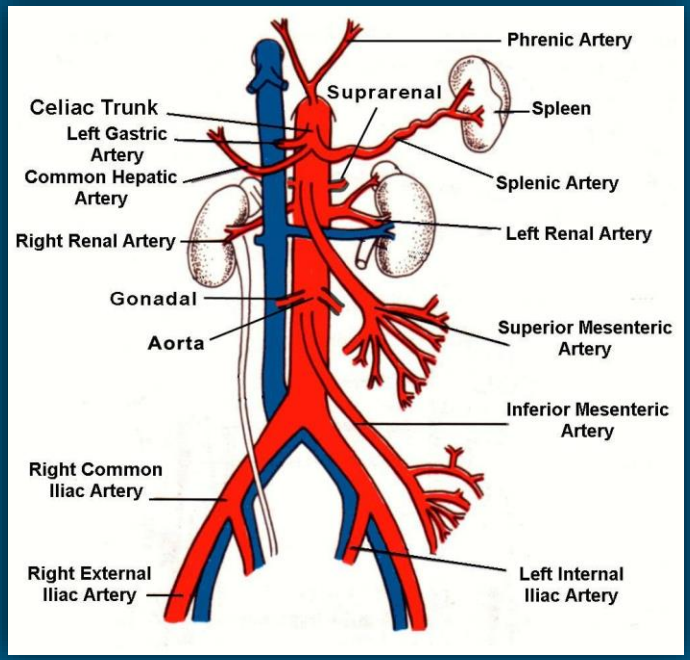
Arterial System-Visceral

- Vascular Anatomy
- Visceral
  - Typically 3 vascular families
    - Celiac, SMA, IMA
  - Catheter Selections: 36245-36248
- Imaging: 75726
  - Inclusive of aortogram



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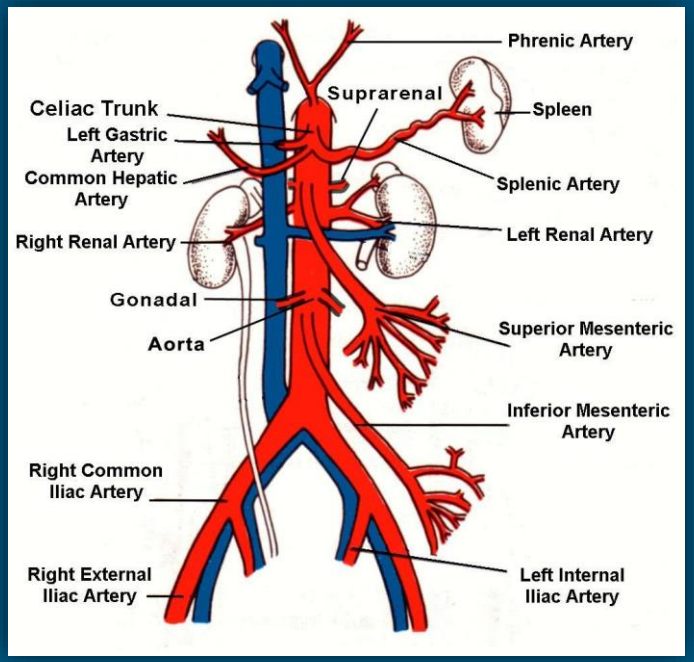
Visceral Angiography-Case #6

From a right common femoral artery approach, the catheter is advanced to the suprarenal aorta for abdominal aortography. The catheter is then used to select the celiac, SMA, and IMA for diagnostic angiograms of each vessel distribution.



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Visceral Angiography-Case #6

36245 X3: Selective catheter placement, arterial system; each first order abdominal, pelvic, or lower extremity artery branch, within a vascular family

75726 X3: Angiography, visceral, selective or supraselective (with or without flush aortogram), radiological supervision and interpretation

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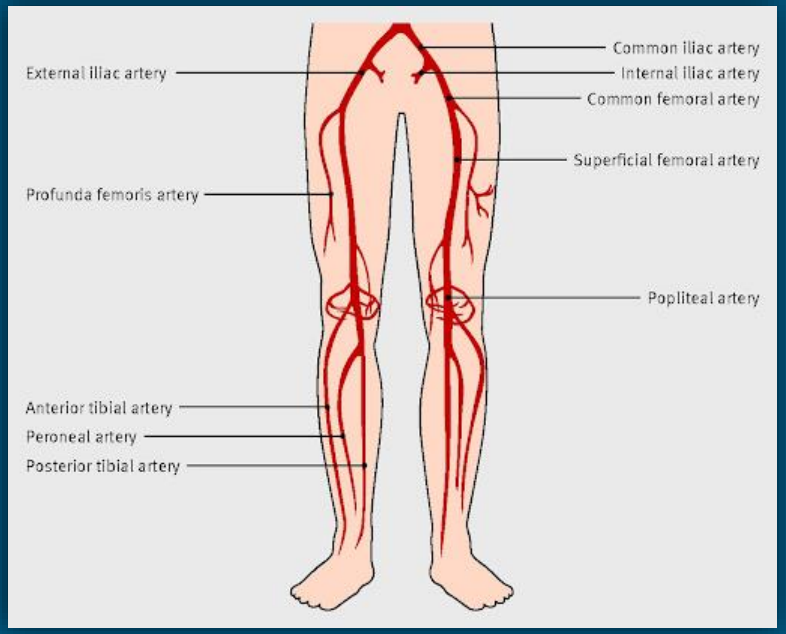
Lower Extremity/Pelvic Angiography

- Vascular Anatomy
- Ipsilateral/Contralateral
- Below the diaphragm-36245-36248
- Imaging: 75710-75716
- Pelvic/Internal Iliac
  - Imaging-75736
  - Common for uterine fibroids



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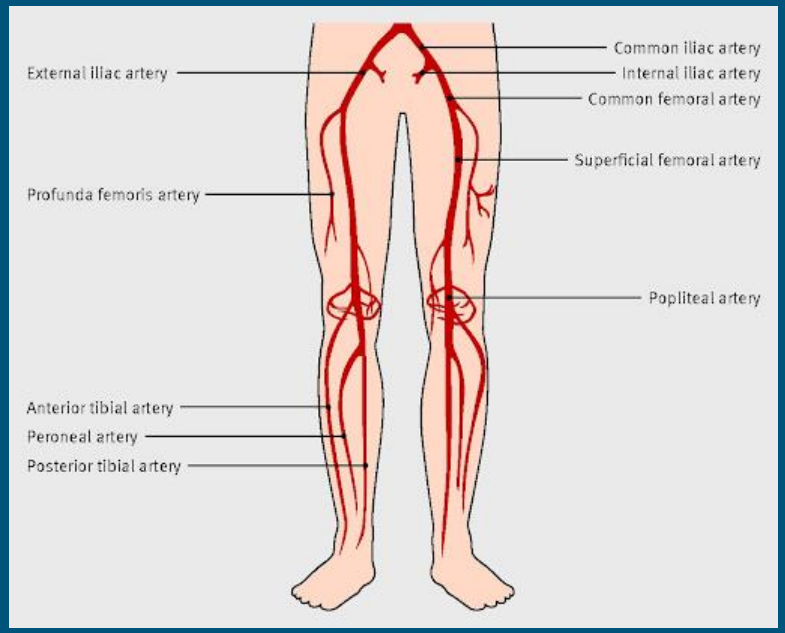
Lower Extremity Angiography-Case #7

Via a left common femoral approach, the catheter is advanced across the aortic bifurcation into the contralateral right superficial femoral artery (SFA) with imaging.



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Lower Extremity Angiography-Case #7

36247: Selective catheter placement, arterial system; initial third order or more selective abdominal, pelvic, or lower extremity artery branch, within a vascular family

75710: Angiography, extremity, unilateral, radiological supervision and interpretation

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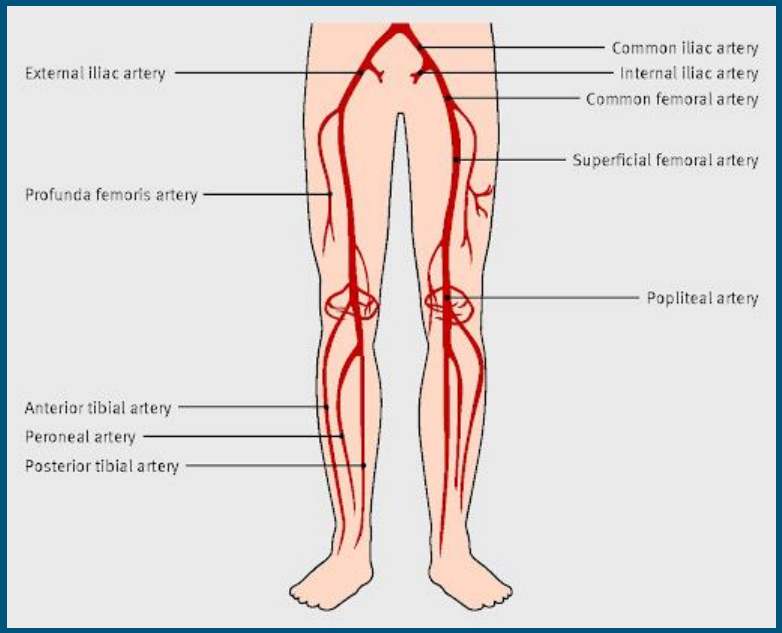
Lower Extremity Angiography-Case #8

Via a right common femoral approach, injection through the right lower extremity demonstrates thrombus in the tibioperoneal trunk. The catheter is advanced into the ipsilateral right superficial femoral artery (SFA) and advanced further into the anterior tibial artery with imaging. Catheter then retracted and advanced into the peroneal and posterior tibial arteries with subsequent imaging.



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Lower Extremity Angiography-Case #8

36247: Selective catheter placement, arterial system; initial third order or more selective abdominal, pelvic, or lower extremity artery branch, within a vascular family

36248 X2: Selective catheter placement, arterial system; additional second order, third order, and beyond, abdominal, pelvic, or lower extremity artery branch, within a vascular family (List in addition to code for initial second or third order vessel as appropriate)

75710: Angiography, extremity, unilateral, radiological supervision and interpretation

75774 X3: Angiography, selective, each additional vessel studied after basic examination, radiological supervision and interpretation (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

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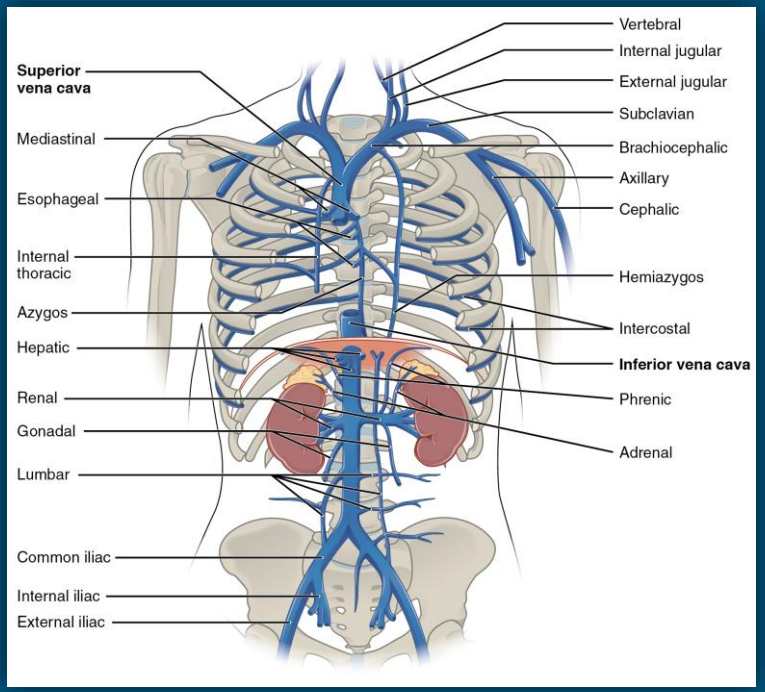
Venous System

- Anatomy
- Main Vessel-Vena Cava
- Cath Selection Codes:
  - 36005-Nonselective Extremity
  - 36010-Nonselective vena cava
  - 36011-1st order
  - 36012-2nd and beyond
- Imaging Codes:
  - 75825/75827-IVC/SVC
  - 75820/75822-Extremity
  - 75831/75833-Renal



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Venous Coding Examples

- Example #1
  - Catheter placed into the inferior vena cava for IVC gram-36010, 75825
- Example #2
  - Catheter placed into the inferior vena cava for IVC gram and advanced proximally to the SVC for SVC gram-36010, 75825, 75827
- Example #3
  - Catheter placed into bilateral renal veins (1st order) for selective renal venography-36011X2, 75833

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Q&A

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Thank you!

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