Diagnosis Code for Keratoacanthoma

Question:
What diagnosis code and type of excision of lesion CPT code should I use for a keratoacanthoma? Some people say these are benign lesions while I’ve heard others say they are malignant. I’m confused.

Answer:
Actually the ICD-9-CM coding system states that a keratoacanthoma is coded as 238.2 (Neoplasm of uncertain behavior of other and unspecified sites and tissues, skin) – an uncertain behavior neoplasm. Therefore, you will use an excision of benign CPT code (114xx) code for the lesion removal procedure.