



Aetna's Provider Service Center
1-800-624-0756

August 16, 2004

Dear Physician:

We are writing to let you know about changes regarding reimbursement of fluoroscopic guidance (76005) and Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC).

Fluoroscopic Guidance

Beginning August 15, 2004, we will reimburse physicians for both the fluoroscopic guidance procedure and the spinal or paraspinal injection when these procedures are performed together.

- The guidance procedure and injection should be treated as two separate procedures, therefore allowing for separate reimbursement.
- Fluoroguide for spine injection will be reimbursed separately, except where the CPT descriptor includes imaging or where the fluoroscopy is used to facilitate a more intense imaging procedure.
- The following codes will allow reimbursement of fluoroscopy (76005): 27096, 62270-62282, 62310-62319, 64470-64484, 64622-64627.
- We will have a retroactive period of 180 days. We will consider claims for dates of service (DOS) from February 15, 2004 through August 14, 2004.

Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC)

Beginning November 15, 2004, reimbursement for MAC procedures will be limited. We made this decision after consulting with the American Society of Anesthesiologists. Additionally, under most circumstances, many minor pain procedures, such as epidural steroid injections, epidural blood patch, trigger point injections, sacroiliac joint injections, bursal injections, occipital nerve block and facet injections do not require a MAC anesthetic.

We have enclosed the pain management procedure codes for which we will no longer reimburse MAC. If you have any questions, please contact our Provider Service Center at 1-800-624-0756.

Sincerely,

James D. Cross, M.D.
Head of Medical Policy Administration

Enclosure



Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC)

The following CPT4 codes are the pain management procedure codes for which we will no longer reimburse MAC/ASA codes effective November 15, 2004.

20526- Injection, therapeutic (e.g., local anesthetic, corticosteroid), carpal tunnel
20550- Injection(s); single tendon sheath or ligament, aponeurosis (e.g., plantar "fascia")
20551- Injection(s); single tendon origin/insertion
20552- Injection(s); single or multiple trigger point(s), one or two muscles(s)
20553- Injection(s); single or multiple trigger point(s), three or more muscle(s)
20600- Arthrocentesis, aspiration and/or injection; small joint on bursa (e.g., fingers, toes)
20605- Arthrocentesis, intermediate joint or bursa (e.g., temporomandibular, acromioclavicular, wrist, elbow or ankle, olecranon bursa)
20610- Arthrocentesis, major joint or bursa (e.g., shoulder, hip, knee joint, subacromial bursa)
27096- Injection procedure for sacroiliac joint, arthrography and/or anesthetic/steroid
62263- Percutaneous lysis of epidural adhesions using solution injection (e.g., hypertonic saline, enzyme) or mechanical means (e.g., catheter) including radiologic localization (includes contrast when administered), multiple adhesiolysis sessions; 2 or more days (experimental procedure)
62264- Percutaneous lysis of epidural adhesions using solution injection (e.g., hypertonic saline, enzyme) or mechanical means (e.g., catheter) including radiologic localization (includes contrast when administered), multiple adhesiolysis sessions; 1 day (experimental procedure)
62270- Spinal puncture, lumbar, diagnostic
62273- Injection, epidural, of blood or clot patch
62280- Injection/infusion of neurolytic substance (e.g., alcohol, phenol, iced saline solutions), with or without other therapeutic substance; subarachnoid
62281- Injection/infusion of neurolytic substance (e.g., alcohol, phenol, iced saline solutions), with or without other therapeutic substance; epidural, cervical or thoracic
62282- Injection/infusion of neurolytic substance (e.g., alcohol, phenol, iced saline solutions), with or without other therapeutic substance; epidural, lumbar, sacral (caudal)
62310- Injection, single (not via indwelling catheter), not including neurolytic substances, with or without contrast (for either localization or epidurography), of diagnostic or therapeutic substance(s) (including anesthetic, antispasmodic, opioid, steroid, other solution), epidural or subarachnoid; cervical or thoracic
62311- Injection, single (not via indwelling catheter), not including neurolytic substances, with or without contrast (for either localization or epidurography), of diagnostic or therapeutic substance(s) (including anesthetic, antispasmodic, opioid, steroid, other solution), epidural or subarachnoid; lumbar, sacral (caudal)
62318- Injection, including catheter placement, continuous infusion or intermittent bolus, not including neurolytic substances, with or without contrast (for either localization or epidurography), of diagnostic or therapeutic substance(s) (including anesthetic, antispasmodic, opioid, steroid, other solution), epidural or subarachnoid; cervical or thoracic
62319- Injection, including catheter placement, continuous infusion or intermittent bolus, not including neurolytic substances, with or without contrast (for either localization or epidurography), of diagnostic or therapeutic substance(s) (including anesthetic antispasmodic, opioid, steroid, other solution), epidural or subarachnoid; lumbar, sacral (caudal)
62367- Electronic analysis of programmable, implanted pump for intrathecal or epidural drug infusion (includes evaluation of reservoir status, alarm status, drug prescription status); without reprogramming
62368- Electronic analysis of programmable, implanted pump for intrathecal or epidural drug infusion (includes evaluation of reservoir status, alarm status, drug prescription status); with reprogramming

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21 4-1

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Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC) (continued)

64402- Injection, anesthetic agent, trigeminal nerve, any division or branch facial nerve
64405- Injection, anesthetic agent, greater occipital nerve
64412- Injection, anesthetic agent, spinal accessory nerve
64417- Injection, anesthetic agent, axillary nerve
64418- Injection, anesthetic agent, suprascapular nerve
64420- Injection, anesthetic agent, intercostal nerve, single
64421- Injection, anesthetic agent, intercostal nerves, multiple, regional block
64425- Injection, anesthetic agent, ilioinguinal, iliohypogastric nerves
64430- Injection, anesthetic agent, pudendal nerve
64435- Injection, anesthetic agent, paracervical (uterine) nerve
64447- Injection, anesthetic agent, femoral nerve, single
64448- Injection, anesthetic agent, femoral nerve, continuous infusion by catheter (including catheter placement) including daily management for anesthetic agent administration
64450- Injection, anesthetic agent, other peripheral nerve or branch
64470- Injection, anesthetic agent and/or steroid, paravertebral facet joint or facet joint nerve; cervical or thoracic, single level
64472- Injection, anesthetic agent and/or steroid, paravertebral facet joint or facet nerve; cervical or thoracic, each additional level
64475- Injection, anesthetic agent and/or steroid, paravertebral facet joint or facet nerve; lumbar or sacral, single level
64476- Injection, anesthetic agent and/or steroid, paravertebral facet joint or facet nerve; lumbar or sacral, each additional level
64483- Injection, anesthetic agent and/or steroid, transforaminal epidural; lumbar or sacral, single level
64484- Injection, anesthetic agent and/or steroid, transforaminal epidural; lumbar or sacral, each additional level
64620- Destruction by neurolytic agent, intercostal nerve
64622- Destruction by neurolytic agent, paravertebral facet joint nerve; lumbar or sacral, single level
64623- Destruction by neurolytic agent, paravertebral facet joint nerve; lumbar or sacral, each additional level
64626- Destruction by neurolytic agent, paravertebral facet joint nerve; cervical or thoracic, single level
64640- Destruction by neurolytic agent, other peripheral nerve or branch

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