

FACET INJECTION WITH EPIDURAL INJECTION

Policy # 39

Implementation Date: 1/1/15

Review Date:

Revision Date: 4/1/06, 2/15/07, 7/15/14

Disclaimer:

1. Policies are subject to change without notice.
2. Policies outline coverage determinations for Select Health Commercial, Select Health Advantage (Medicare/CMS), and Select Health Community Care (Medicaid/CHIP) plans. Refer to the "Policy" section for more information.

Description

A facet block procedure is a treatment in which the physician uses imaging to guide a needle into the facet joint capsule to inject lidocaine (i.e., a numbing agent) and/or a steroid (i.e., an anti-inflammatory medication) which can temporarily block pain in the neck and back from inflammation or irritation of the facet joints in the spine. This procedure can be used as a diagnostic test to see if the pain is actually coming from a facet joint, and if this procedure is effective in alleviating low back pain, it would be considered a reasonable treatment.

An epidural steroid injection is a treatment that can help relieve pain in the neck, arm, low back, and leg caused by irritation of the spinal nerves. It can be used to relieve pain caused by spinal stenosis, spondylosis, or disc herniation, and can be helpful in reducing inflammation from an injury. The epidural injection delivers a long-lasting steroid and an anesthetic agent to the irritated and inflamed spinal nerve.

COMMERCIAL PLAN POLICY AND CHIP (CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM)

Upon appeal, Select Health **will reimburse for multiple injections when they meet either of the following:**

- The blocks are performed at different levels (e.g., C1, L3, L5, etc.).
- If at the same level, one or both of the spinal injection(s), have been previously provided to the patient, verifiable by documentation in the patient record that indicates the type of injection previously done, the date, the spinal level(s), the medication injected, and there is notation of a positive outcome/response to that injection, and the patient now presents with a new or reoccurring symptom which is verifiable by physical exam and/or MRI or other appropriate test.

SELECT HEALTH ADVANTAGE (MEDICARE/CMS)

Select Health Advantage **will follow the commercial plan policy.**

SELECT HEALTH COMMUNITY CARE (MEDICAID)

Select Health Community Care **will follow the commercial plan policy.**

Applicable Codes

CPT	Description
62310	Injection(s), of diagnostic or therapeutic substance(s) (including anesthetic, antispasmodic, opioid, steroid, other solution), not including neurolytic substances, including needle or catheter placement, includes contrast for localization when performed, 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)
64479	Injection, anesthetic agent and/or steroid, transforaminal epidural; cervical or thoracic, single level
64480	; cervical or thoracic, each additional level (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
64483	Injection, anesthetic agent and/or steroid, transforaminal epidural; lumbar or sacral, single level
64484	; lumbar or sacral, each additional level (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
64490	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with image guidance (fluoroscopy or CT), cervical or thoracic; single level
64491	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with image guidance (fluoroscopy or CT), cervical or thoracic; second level (List separately in addition to code for primary proced
64492	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with image guidance (fluoroscopy or CT), cervical or thoracic; third and any additional level(s) (List separately in addition to co
64493	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with image guidance (fluoroscopy or CT), lumbar or sacral; single level
64494	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with image guidance (fluoroscopy or CT), lumbar or sacral; second level (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
64495	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with image guidance (fluoroscopy or CT), lumbar or sacral; third and any additional level(s) (List separately in addition to code f
0213T	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with ultrasound guidance, cervical or thoracic; single level
0214T	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with ultrasound guidance, cervical or thoracic; second level (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
0215T	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with ultrasound guidance, cervical or thoracic; third and any additional level(s) (List separately in addition to code for primary
0216T	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with ultrasound guidance, lumbar or sacral; single level
0217T	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with ultrasound guidance, lumbar or sacral; second level (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
0218T	Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with ultrasound guidance, lumbar or sacral; third and any additional level(s) (List separately in addition to code for primary proc

Sources

1. *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)*, (2014) – American Medical Association
2. ICD-9-CM Coding Guidelines. (2013, January 1). Retrieved July 8, 2014, from https://www.encodepro.com/epro/physicianDoc/pdf/i9v1/i9_guidelines.pdf
3. Coding Companion for Neurosurgery/Neurology, Explanation, Coding Tips (62310-62311), (64470-64472), (64475-64476), (64479-64480), and (64483-64484) – Ingenix (2003) *Facet Injections*, Mayfield Clinic and Spinal Institute (2007). Retrieved July 15, 2014, from <http://www.mayfieldclinic.com/PDF/PE-Facet.pdf>
4. Injections for Back Pain Management, Spine-health.com 2014. Retrieved August 25, 2014, from <http://www.spine-health.com/topics/conserv/overview/inj/inj03.html>
5. *Epidural Injections*, Mayfield Clinic and Spinal Institute Updated March 2013. Retrieved August 25, 2014, from <http://www.mayfieldclinic.com/PDF/PE-ESI.PDF>
6. Epidural Spinal Injection, Spine-health.com 2014. Retrieved August 25, 2014. from <http://www.spine-health.com/topics/conserv/epidural/feature/ep01.html>
7. Surgery: Endocrine, Nervous, Eye and Ocular Adnexa, and Auditory Systems CPT Codes 60000-69999, National Correct Coding Initiative Policy Manual for Medicare Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Chapter VIII, (Revised January 2014)

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