

ANESTHESIA (GENERAL & MAC) WITH COLONOSCOPIES AND OTHER ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATIONS

Policy # 51

Implementation Date: 1/1/10

Review Date:

Revision Date: 4/24/10, 5/27/10, 4/1/14, 1/1/18

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

Intravenous conscious sedation and analgesia are routinely administered for gastrointestinal endoscopic examinations to help alleviate patient anxiety and discomfort. Provision of conscious sedation for endoscopy procedures is standard practice and is included in the value of the CPT or HCPCS code used. Under normal circumstances, a licensed registered nurse or physician assistant administers intravenous opiate narcotics (e.g., fentanyl), in combination with a benzodiazepine, usually midazolam (Versed®) and this is usually done under the direct supervision of the physician doing the procedure.

In recent years, a drug, propofol (Diprivan), has been used as an alternative method of sedation for patients undergoing endoscopy procedures because it is a short-acting anesthetic agent which provides rapid induction of sedation, quicker patient recovery time, and an anti-emetic effect

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

Date of service prior to 1/1/2018

Select Health **considers general anesthesia, monitored anesthesia care (MAC) or deep sedation provided for routine upper or lower gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures, including colonoscopy, not medically necessary for patients over the age of 18 and will not reimburse separately.**

Upon appeal, Select Health will consider this type of anesthesia if the documentation indicates it was medically necessary.

Date of service on or after 1/1/2018

Select Health **will no longer require review and will pay general anesthesia, monitored anesthesia care (MAC), or deep sedation, provided for routine upper or lower gastrointestinal endoscopy procedures, including a screening colonoscopy, at a set rate.**

SELECT HEALTH ADVANTAGE (MEDICARE/CMS)

Date of service prior to 1/1/2018

Select Health Advantage **follows CMS guidelines and requires a medical necessity review prior to a denial.**

Date of service on or after 1/1/2018

Select Health Advantage **will follow CMS guidelines and will no longer require review.**

SELECT HEALTH COMMUNITY CARE (MEDICAID)

Date of service prior to 1/1/2018

Select Health Community Care **follows CMS guidelines and requires a medical necessity review prior to a denial.**

Date of service on or after 01/1/2018

Select Health Community Care **follows CMS guidelines and will no longer require review.**

Applicable Codes prior to 1/1/2018

Codes	Descriptions
00740	Anesthesia for upper gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures, endoscope introduced proximal to duodenum
00810	Anesthesia for lower intestinal endoscopic procedures, endoscope introduced distal to duodenum

Applicable Codes as of 1/1/2018

00812	Anesthesia for lower intestinal endoscopic procedures, endoscope introduced distal to duodenum; screening colonoscopy
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Sources

1. *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)*, (2014) – American Medical Association
2. ICD-9-CM Coding Guidelines. (2013, January 1). Retrieved April 1, 2014, from https://www.encoderpro.com/epro/physicianDoc/pdf/i9v1/i9_guidelines.pdf
3. *Anesthesia Service for Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Procedures* – Wellmark BlueCross Blue Shield (May, 2014) Retrieved August 14, 2014, from http://www.wellmark.com/Provider/MedPoliciesAndAuthorizations/MedicalPolicies/policies/Anesthesia_Services.aspx
4. *Anesthesia Services for Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Procedures* – BlueCross BlueShield of Minnesota (2014). Retrieved August 14, 2014, from [http://notes.bluecrossmn.com/web/medpolman.nsf/eea82a9a57a10ba78625701500770363/0fea61b35b970f058625757c00628297/\\$FILE/Anesthesia%20Services%20for%20Gastrointestinal%20Endoscopic%20Procedures.pdf](http://notes.bluecrossmn.com/web/medpolman.nsf/eea82a9a57a10ba78625701500770363/0fea61b35b970f058625757c00628297/$FILE/Anesthesia%20Services%20for%20Gastrointestinal%20Endoscopic%20Procedures.pdf)
5. Sedation and anesthesia in GI endoscopy American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy http://www.asge.org/uploadedFiles/Publications_and_Products/Practice_Guidelines/Sedation%20and%20Anesthesia%20in%20GI%20Endoscopy%202008.pdf

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