

# **2019 REIMBURSEMENT GUIDE**

# Axonics® System for Sacral Neuromodulation Overactive Bladder | Urinary Retention | Fecal Incontinence

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## Diagnoses

ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes1 are used by providers to report patient conditions. List all diagnoses on the claim form and code to the highest available level of specificity based on the documentation in the patient's medical record. The following ICD-10-CM codes describe conditions commonly treated with the Axonics System. Other codes may apply based on the patient condition. For a complete list of codes and descriptions, consult the current ICD-10-CM manual.

#### Table I. ICD-10-CM Codes

Overactive Bladder or Urinary Retention	ICD-10-CM and Description
N39.41	Urge incontinence
R33.8	Other retention of urine
R33.9	Retention of urine, unspecified
R35.0	Frequency of micturition
R39.14	Feeling of incomplete bladder emptying
Fecal Incontinence	ICD-10-CM and Description
R15.9	Full incontinence of feces
Device Adjustment and Management	ICD-10-CM and Description
Z45.42	Encounter for adjustment and management of neuropacemaker (brain) (peripheral nerve) (spinal cord)



## CPT® Procedural Codes

CPT codes have narrative descriptions that are used to report procedures performed by physicians and health care practitioners. CPT codes are used for reporting services delivered in the physician office, hospital outpatient, and ambulatory surgery center settings.

## **Physician Coding and Payment**

Table II describes applicable procedures when performed with the Axonics System. Procedures may vary based on the patient condition and documentation. As payer code requirements vary, check billing instructions. Consult the current CPT code manual for additional codes as this list is not all-inclusive.

### **Table II: CPT Codes**

Code <sup>2</sup>	National Average Payment (In) Facility <sup>4</sup> \$315
Total Relative Values Payment Non-Facilit  Lead Implantation  64561 Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement) including imaging guidance, if performed  Reporting Instructions  • CPT 64561 <sup>5</sup> report for temporary or permanent percutaneous placement of the percutaneous includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"  • For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures  64581 Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal)	Average Payment (In) Facility <sup>4</sup> \$315  electrode array;
Relative Values Payment Non-Facilit  Lead Implantation  64561 Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement) including imaging guidance, if performed  Reporting Instructions  • CPT 64561 <sup>5</sup> report for temporary or permanent percutaneous placement of the percutaneous includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"  • For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures  64581 Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal)	\$315 electrode array;
Lead Implantation  64561 Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement) including imaging guidance, if performed  Reporting Instructions  CPT 64561 <sup>5</sup> report for temporary or permanent percutaneous placement of the percutaneous includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"  For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures  Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal)	\$315 size   \$315
Lead Implantation  64561 Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement) including imaging guidance, if performed  Reporting Instructions  ■ CPT 64561 <sup>5</sup> report for temporary or permanent percutaneous placement of the percutaneous includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"  ■ For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures  64581 Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal 19.09 19.09 \$688	\$315 electrode array;
Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement) including imaging guidance, if performed   Percutaneous placement of the percutaneous includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"	electrode array;
electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement) including imaging guidance, if performed  Reporting Instructions  CPT 64561 <sup>5</sup> report for temporary or permanent percutaneous placement of the percutaneous includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"  For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures  Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal	electrode array;
placement) including imaging guidance, if performed  Reporting Instructions  CPT 64561 <sup>5</sup> report for temporary or permanent percutaneous placement of the percutaneous includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"  For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures  Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal	
performed	
Reporting Instructions	
<ul> <li>CPT 64561<sup>5</sup> report for temporary or permanent percutaneous placement of the percutaneous includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"</li> <li>For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures</li> <li>Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal</li> </ul>	
includes the "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit"  • For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures  64581 Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal left)  19.09 \$688	
• For bilateral procedures, append the -50 modifier: -50 Bilateral procedures  64581 Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal section 19.09 shows the sacral nerve (transforaminal section 19.00 s	\$688
64581 Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal 19.09 \$688	\$688
electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal	\$688
placement)	
Reporting Instructions	
CPT code 64581 is reported for lead placement that is tunneled. <sup>6</sup>	
Do not report removal of an existing lead when a new lead is replaced	
Generator Implantation/Revision or Lead Replacement/Revision	
64590 Insertion or replacement of peripheral or 7.60 4.64 \$274	\$167
gastric neurostimulator or receiver, direct or	
inductive coupling	
64585 Revision or removal of peripheral 7.03 4.14 \$253	\$149
neurostimulator electrode array	
<b>64595</b> Revision or removal of peripheral or gastric 6.89 3.63 \$248	\$131
neurostimulator pulse generator or receiver	
Reporting Instructions	•
Report 64595 when the same generator is removed and then re-inserted	
Imaging Guidance	
76000- Fluoroscopy (separate procedure), up to 1 hour   .44   .44   \$16	\$16
26 physician or other qualified health care	310
professional time	
professional time	



CPT <sup>®</sup> Code <sup>2</sup>	Description	Non-Facility (Office) Medicare Total Relative Values	(In) Facility Medicare Total Relative Values	2019 Medicare National Average Payment Non-Facility <sup>3</sup>	2019 Medicare National Average Payment (In) Facility <sup>4</sup>
Reportin	g Instructions				
•	Do not report fluoroscopy separately with CPT 645	61. Imaging gui	dance is includ	led in the descript	or. <sup>7</sup>
	May be reported separately with CPT 64581				
	ming and Analysis	1			
95970	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter (eg, contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz], on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable parameters, responsive	0.54	0.53	\$19	\$19
	neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care professional; with brain, cranial nerve, spinal cord, peripheral nerve, or sacral nerve, neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter, without programming				
95971	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter (eg, contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz], on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care professional; with simple spinal cord or peripheral nerve (eg, sacral nerve) neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter programming by physician or other qualified health care professional	1.44	1.17	\$52	\$42
95972	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter (eg, contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz], on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care professional; with complex spinal cord or peripheral nerve (eg, sacral nerve) neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter programming by physician or other qualified health care professional	1.62	1.19	\$58	\$43



CPT®	Description	Non-Facility	(In)	2019	2019
Code <sup>2</sup>		(Office)	Facility	Medicare	Medicare
		Medicare	Medicare	National	National
		Total	Total	Average	Average
		Relative	Relative	Payment	Payment
		Values	Values	Non-Facility <sup>3</sup>	(In) Facility <sup>4</sup>

Reporting Instructions: (95970-95972)

#### **Programming**

- Simple programming includes adjustment of one to three parameter(s)
- Complex programming includes adjustment of more than three parameters
- Single parameter that is adjusted two or more times during a programming session counts as one parameter

#### Operative

- CPT 95970 (analysis without programming) may not be separately reported at the same operative session. This code is inherent to the implantation (codes) 64561, 64581, and 64590.
- For CPT 95971 (simple programming) and 95972 (complex programming), when performed in the operating room, programming the neurostimulator is not inherent to the implantation codes and may be separately reported

## Physician Global Surgery Package/Global Period

Surgical procedures are subject to a Global Surgery package also known as a "global period" and includes services normally furnished by the physician who performed the surgery. Services included are pre-operative visits the day before or on the same day as the surgery, postoperative visits, and complications following surgery.

Neurostimulator CPT codes 64561, 64585, 64590 and 64595 have a 10-day global period whereas CPT code 64581 has a 90-day global period.

#### **Modifiers**

Modifiers are used to supplement information to provide additional details about a procedure provided by a physician. They help to further describe a procedure code without changing its definition. Modifiers are appended to the relevant procedure code. Payer policies for modifier use may apply and should be confirmed.

#### **Table III: Common CPT Modifiers**

-26 Professional Compo	nent	
------------------------	------	--

<sup>-50</sup> Bilateral Procedures

-58 Staged or Related Procedure or Service by the Same Physician or Other Qualified Health Care Professional During the Postoperative Period

#### -59 Distinct Procedural Service

- -73 Discontinued Outpatient Procedure Prior to Anesthesia Administration (Facility Reporting Only)
- -74 Discontinued Outpatient Procedure After Anesthesia Administration (Facility Reporting Only)

<sup>-51</sup> Multiple Procedures



## Hospital Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgery Center Coding and Payment

Medicare and some private payers use Ambulatory Patient Classifications (APCs) to prospectively pay outpatient hospital and ambulatory surgery episodes of care. CPT° codes for procedures performed are assigned to APCs. Most commercial insurers pay the hospital contracted rates (i.e., APC, case rate, or per diem rate) that are negotiated between the hospital and the insurer. (Refer to Table II CPT° coding instructions)

**Table IV: Hospital Outpatient Coding and Payment** 

CPT® Code	Description	APC	APC Descriptor	SI*	2019 Medicare National Average Payment Rate <sup>8</sup>
Lead Im	plantation				
64561	Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement) including imaging guidance, if performed	5462	Level 2 Neurostimulator and Related Procedures	J1	\$5,980
64581	Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement)	5462	Level 2 Neurostimulator and Related Procedures	J1	\$5,980
Generat	ors Implantation or Replacement				
64590	Insertion or replacement of peripheral or gastric neurostimulator or receiver, direct to inductive coupling	5463	Level 3 Neurostimulator and Related Procedures	J1	\$18,707
Revision	or Removal of Lead or Generator				
64585	Revision or removal of peripheral neurostimulator electrode array	5461	Level 1 Neurostimulator and Related Procedures	Q2	\$2,880
64595	Revision or removal of peripheral or gastric neurostimulator pulse generator or receiver	5461	Level 1 Neurostimulator and Related Procedures	Q2	\$2,880
<b>Imaging</b>	Guidance				
76000	Fluoroscopy (separate procedure), up to 1 hour physician or other qualified health care professional time	5523	Level 3 Imaging Without Contrast	S	\$231
Program	ming and Analysis				
95970	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter (eg, contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz], on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care professional; with brain, cranial nerve, spinal cord, peripheral nerve, or sacral nerve, neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter, without programming	5734	Level 4 Minor Procedures	S	\$106



CPT® Code	Description	APC	APC Descriptor	SI*	2019 Medicare National Average Payment Rate <sup>8</sup>
95971	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter (eg, contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz], on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care professional; with simple spinal cord or peripheral nerve (eg, sacral nerve) neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter programming by physician or other qualified health care professional	5742	Level 2 Electronic Analysis of Devices	S	\$118
95972	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter (eg, contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz], on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care professional; with complex spinal cord or peripheral nerve (eg, sacral nerve) neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter programming by physician or other qualified health care professional	5742	Level 2 Electronic Analysis of Devices	S	\$118

<sup>\*</sup>OPPS Status Indicators

Status Indicator: J1 Hospital Part B Services Paid Through a Comprehensive APC (C-APC) NOTE: Assignment of a CPT procedure code to a C-APCs is considered a primary procedure. All other services and procedures reported on the claim would be considered adjunctive to the primary procedure. CMS will make a single APC payment for the entire hospital outpatient encounter. There is no additional payment for the adjunctive services or procedures. When procedures performed in an episode of care map to multiple C-APCs, the entire episode will map to the highest paying C-APC. Status Indicator: Q2 T Packaged Codes

Status Indicator: S Significant Procedure Not Subject to Multiple Procedure Discounting



# Table V: Ambulatory Surgery Center Coding and Payment (Refer to Table II coding instructions)

CPT®	Description	Payment	2019 Medicare
Code		Indicator*	National Average Payment Rate <sup>9</sup>
Lead Im	plantation		
64561	Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve	18	\$4,587
	(transforaminal placement) including imaging guidance, if performed		
64581	Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrode array; sacral nerve		\$4,823
	(transforaminal placement)		
Generat	or Implantation or Replacement		
64590	Insertion or replacement of peripheral or gastric neurostimulator or receiver,	18	\$16,958
	direct to inductive coupling		
Revision	or Removal of Lead or Generator		
64585	Revision or removal of peripheral neurostimulator electrode array	A2	\$1,483
64595	Revision or removal of peripheral or gastric neurostimulator pulse generator or	18	\$1,970
	receiver		
Imaging	Guidance		
76000	Fluoroscopy (separate procedure), up to 1 hour physician or other qualified	Z3	\$32
	health care professional time		
Program	nming		
95970	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter	NA	NA
	(eg, contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz],		
	on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable		
	parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop		
	parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care		
	professional; with brain, cranial nerve, spinal cord, peripheral nerve, or sacral		
	nerve, neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter, without programming		
95971	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter	NA	NA
	(eg, contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz],		
	on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable		
	parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop		
	parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care		
	professional; with simple spinal cord or peripheral nerve (eg, sacral nerve)		
	neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter programming by physician or		
	other qualified health care professional		
95972	Electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter	NA	NA
	(e.g., contact group[s], interleaving, amplitude, pulse width, frequency [Hz],		
	on/off cycling, burst, magnet mode, dose lockout, patient selectable		
	parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed loop		
	parameters, and passive parameters) by physician or other qualified health care		
	professional; with complex spinal cord or peripheral nerve (e.g., sacral nerve)		
	neurostimulator pulse generator/transmitter programming by physician or		
	other qualified health care professional		

<sup>\*</sup>ASC Payment Indicators

J8 Device-intensive procedure; paid at adjusted rate

A2 Surgical procedure on ASC list in CY 2007; payment based on OPPS relative payment weight.

Z3 Radiology or diagnostic service paid separately when provided integral to a surgical procedure on ASC list; payment based on MPFS non-facility PE RVUs



## **HCPCS Level II Codes**

HCPCS Level II Codes are alphanumeric codes that describe products, supplies, and services not included as part of the CPT<sup>®</sup> Code system. HCPCS contains a category of "C" codes that are billed on Medicare claims for the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (HOPPS) for specific device-dependent procedures. Hospital chargemasters are often required to list these codes for identification/costs.

Private payers may use C codes or Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetic and Orthotic (DMEPOS) HCPCS codes to identify devices.

## **Table VI: Medicare Device C Codes for Hospital Outpatient Reporting**

C1897	Lead, neurostimulator test kit (implantable)
C1778	Lead, neurostimulator (implantable)
C1820	Generator, neurostimulator (implantable), with rechargeable battery and charging system
C1787	Patient Programmer, neurostimulator
C1894	Introducer/sheath, other than guiding, other than intracardiac electrophysiological, non-laser
C1883	Adaptor/extension, pacing lead or neurostimulator or lead (implantable)

## Table VII. DMEPOS Codes<sup>10</sup>

A4290	Sacral nerve stimulation test lead, each
L8679	Implantable neurostimulator, pulse generator, any type
L8680	Implantable neurostimulator electrode, each
L8685	Implantable neurostimulator pulse generator, single array, rechargeable, includes extension
L8681	Patient programmer (external) for use with implantable programmable neurostimulator pulse generator, replacement only
L8689	External recharging system for battery (internal) for use with implantable neurostimulator, replacement only

Check with private payers if the "L" or "C" HCPCS codes are applicable.



## Hospital Inpatient Procedure Coding and Reimbursement

Medicare and many private payers use MS-DRGs to reimburse hospitals for inpatient admissions. Inpatient services are "grouped" to one MS-DRG based on the ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS codes dependent on documentation in the patient's medical record. Each MS-DRG has a prospectively established payment rate, which includes all rendered services during the inpatient encounter. Most private or commercial insurers pay hospitals a negotiated, contracted rate (i.e., DRG, case rate, or per diem rate). Tables VIII and IX list common ICD-10-PCS codes and MS-DRGs that may be appropriate to describe procedures and inpatient encounters that include use of the Axonics System. This list is not an all-inclusive list. For a complete list of codes, consult the current ICD-10-PCS code manual.

### Table VIII: ICD-10-PCS Codes<sup>11</sup>

ICD-10-PCS	Descriptor				
Lead Implant	Lead Implantation				
01HY0MZ	Insertion of neurostimulator lead into peripheral nerve, open approach				
01HY3MZ	Insertion of neurostimulator lead into peripheral nerve, percutaneous approach				
Generator Im	plantation				
OJH70CZ	Insertion of single array stimulator generator rechargeable into back subcutaneous tissue and fascia, open approach				
Lead Remova					
01PY0MZ	Removal of neurostimulator lead from peripheral nerve, open approach				
01PY3MZ	Removal of neurostimulator lead from peripheral nerve, percutaneous approach				
Generator Re	moval				
OJPTOMZ	Removal of stimulator generator from trunk subcutaneous tissue and fascia, open approach				
0JPT3MZ	Removal of stimulator generator from trunk subcutaneous tissue and fascia, percutaneous approach				
Lead Revision					
01WY0MZ	Revision of neurostimulator leas in peripheral nerve, open approach				
01WY3MZ	Revision of neurostimulator lead in peripheral nerve, percutaneous approach				
Generator Re	vision				
0JWT0MZ	Revision of stimulator generator in trunk subcutaneous tissue and fascia, open approach				
0JWT3MZ	Revision of stimulator generator in trunk subcutaneous tissue and fascia, percutaneous approach				

## Table IX: Hospital Inpatient MS-DRGs<sup>12</sup>

MS- DRG	Descriptor	FY 2020 Medicare National Average <sup>13</sup>
Urinary – Generator and Lead or Lead only		
673	Other Kidney and Urinary Tract Procedures with MCC	\$22,390
674	Other Kidney and Urinary Tract Procedures with CC	\$15,296
675	Other Kidney and Urinary Tract Procedures without MCC/CC	\$10,222
Urinary	and Fecal Incontinence – Generator only or Generator and Lead	
981	Extensive OR Procedure Unrelated to Principal Diagnosis W MCC	\$28,199
982	Extensive OR Procedure Unrelated to Principal Diagnosis W CC	\$15,271
983	Extensive OR Procedure Unrelated to Principal Diagnosis W/O CC/MC	\$10,254
Lead Re	vision or Removal, Lead Only or Whole System	
40	Peripheral/Cranial Nerve and Other Nervous System Procedures W MCC	\$24,682
41	Peripheral/Cranial Nerve and Other Nervous System Procedures W MCC or Peripheral Neurostimulators	\$14,854
42	Peripheral/Cranial Nerve and Other Nervous System Procedures W/O CC/MCC	\$11,577

MCC- Major Complication and Comorbidities

CC- Complications and/or Comorbidities





## Frequently Asked Questions

Check with payers for their specific coding and billing guidance as payer policies vary. You may also contact the Axonics Reimbursement Support Center.

- 1. How is a complete system implant reported?
  - a. Report a lead and a generator code.
- 2. Can the separate lead device code, HCPCS code A4290 Sacral nerve stimulation test lead, be reported in addition to CPT 64561 (lead implantation)?
  - a. No, CPT® Code 64561 includes "percutaneous neuro test stimulation kit" per NCCI guidelines.
- 3. How is the removal of an existing lead with an implant for a new lead reported?
  - a. Report either CPT Code 64561 or 64581.
  - b. Do not separately report the removal of the existing lead.
- 4. How is a generator removal reported when it is not replaced?
  - a. CPT Code 64595 is reported when an existing generator is removed without replacement.
- 5. Is programming of the Sacral Neurostimulator system included in the "global period"?
  - a. No, electronic analysis of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator systems with and without programming are not subject to the global period.
- 6. Does HCPCS C1820 Generator, neurostimulator (implantable), with rechargeable battery and charging system apply to the Axonics System?
  - a. Yes. HCPCS C1820 describes a rechargeable neurostimulator and includes the rechargeable battery and charging system and may be reported for Medicare and some non-Medicare payers.
- 7. If HCPCS C1820 is not identified in coverage policies or guidance reference materials, can it be reported for the Axonics rechargeable generator?
  - a. Yes. Absence of a reference/instruction does not imply that HCPCS C1820 cannot be reported for the Axonics System. Coverage polices and billing guidance specifically identify non-covered items.
- 8. Is a "C" code(s) reported for the lead, generator, sheath, and extension when submitting a bill to the ASC?
  - a. No. Medicare has designated "C" codes as packaged into the primary procedure. They are not separately reportable or payable to the ASC.
- 9. What is the difference between "simple" and "complex" programming"?
  - a. Adjustment of three or fewer parameters is "simple" programming. "Complex" programming involves adjustment of three or more parameters.
- 10. Can programming codes (95971 or 95972) be reported when the physician programs a neurostimulator in the operating room?
  - a. Yes, when performed in the operating room, programming the neurostimulator is separately reported.
  - b. Note, test stimulation that is performed during the implantation procedure may not be separately reported with programming codes 95970, 95971 or 95972.



## Prior Authorization: Medicare Advantage and Non-Medicare Health Plans

Prior Authorization of benefits is important to obtain from Medicare Advantage plans, private, and other non-Medicare payers. This will help patients avoid incurring charges for services and items that may not be covered. Traditional Medicare does not prior authorize services.

## **Steps for obtaining Prior Authorization**

Prior authorization may be required for the temporary stimulation test/trial and the permanent implantation if the trial is successful.

- 1. Contact the Insurance Carrier
  - a. Review carrier requirements for prior authorization
  - b. Verify benefits and coverage for procedure
  - c. Identify patient information, diagnoses and corresponding CPT codes, HCPCS codes
- 2. Record the name of the individual from the health plan with whom you speak, the reference number for the call, and the date and time of the call or contact
  - a. Medicare Advantage plans must follow traditional Medicare coverage policies
  - b. Follow up until a decision has been made
- Verify the patient meets payer criteria (not an all-inclusive list; consult payer medical policy(ies) as coverage criteria may vary)

#### **Urinary Incontinence**

- a. Patient has been symptomatic for 6 months not related to a neurologic condition (e.g. non-obstructive urinary retention, urgency-frequency syndrome, urinary urge incontinence)
- b. Patient has tried and failed conservative therapy including behavioral therapy and pharmaceutical treatment
- c. For permanent implantation, evidence that the patient experienced relief of incontinence symptoms in the trial period, usually at least 50%

#### Fecal Incontinence

- a. Patient has experienced chronic fecal incontinence (e.g. average no. times per week for 6 mo. or 12 mo. following childbirth, etc.) unrelated to a neurological condition
- b. Patient has tried and failed conservative therapy including behavioral therapy and pharmaceutical treatment
- c. Patient cannot tolerate conservative treatments due to severity impacting ability to work or participate in activities outside the home
- d. For permanent implantation, evidence that the patient experienced relief of incontinence symptoms in the trial period, usually at least 50%
- e. A patient diary may be required and included in the medical record
- 4. If the plan does not require prior authorization or it is denied, consider requesting a voluntary predetermination; if the plan agrees, the patient case will be reviewed
  - a. Documentation should include a letter of medical necessity, patient medical information, product information, peer-reviewed literature, and a bibliography
  - b. Peer to Peer review may be scheduled between the medical director and the treating physician to review the case



## Sources

<sup>1</sup> 2019 ICD-10-CM Professional The complete official code set, Optum 360 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 2019 AMA CPT Professional

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Medicare Program; revisions to Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Revisions to Part B for CY 2019; Final Rule with Comment, Federal Register (83 Fed Reg. No. 226) November 23, 2018, 42 CFR Parts 405, 410, 411, 414, 415, 425, and 495; Addenda B

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Medicare Program; revisions to Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Revisions to Part B for CY 2019; Final Rule with Comment, Federal Register (83 Fed Reg. No. 226) November 23, 2018, 42 CFR Parts 405, 410, 411, 414, 415, 425, and 495; Addenda B

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Coding Brief: Reporting Percutaneous Implantation of Neurostimulator Electrode Arrays Codes (October 2018, Volume 28, Issue 10, pages 8, 12)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> CPT Assistant December 2012 page 14

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> CPT Assistance, September 2014 Page 5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Medicare Program; Changes to Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs; Final Rule with Comment, Federal Register (83 Fed Reg. No. 225) November 21, 2018, 42 CFR Parts 416 and 419; Addenda A, B and D1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Medicare Program; Changes to Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs; Final Rule with Comment, Federal Register (83 Fed Reg. No. 225) November 21, 2018, 42 CFR Parts 416 and 419; CN 2 Updated 01/23/2019 Addenda AA, BB, and DD1 and Addenda AA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 2019 HCPCS Level II Professional Edition AMA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 2019 ICD-10-PCS Professional The complete official code set, Optum 360 2018

<sup>12 2019</sup> DRG Expert Volume 1 Optum 360, LLC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Medicare Program; Hospital inpatient Prospective Payment System for Acute Care Hospitals and the Long-Term Care Hospitals Prospective Payment System and Policy changes and Fiscal Year 2020 Rates; final Rule, August 2, 2019, 42 CFR Parts 412, 413 and 495; Table 1A-1E, Table 5