

Medical Policy



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Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Title: Regional Nerve Blocks and General Anesthesia

Professional

Original Effective Date: November 1, 2005

Revision Date(s):

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Institutional

Original Effective Date: November 1, 2005

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DESCRIPTION

Regional nerve blocks are a form of pain management lasting 10 to 12 hours depending on the technique. A regional nerve block is placed preoperative or postoperatively for postoperative pain control to decrease the need for narcotics and patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) machines.

POLICY

A regional nerve block will be allowed preoperatively for pain control along with general anesthesia for the following:

- Shoulder surgeries (arthroscopic or otherwise) that involve cutting or drilling of the bone including placement of suture anchors.
- Knee surgeries – ACL, Fulkerson, High Tibial Osteotomy, and Total knee replacement, repair, or revision

A regional nerve block will not be allowed preoperatively for pain control along with general anesthesia for the following:

- Diagnostic arthroscopic shoulder surgery that does not involve cutting or drilling of the bone or placement of suture anchors
- Knee surgeries not listed above
- All other surgeries not listed

A regional nerve block will be allowed postoperatively for pain control following general anesthesia for any condition.

A regional nerve block would be appropriate for both inpatient and outpatient settings.

DOCUMENTATION

The medical record must indicate when the regional nerve block was done.

CODING**CPT**

23035	Incision, bone cortex (e.g. osteomyelitis or bone abscess), shoulder area
23120	Claviclectomy; partial
23125	Claviclectomy; total
23130	Acromioplasty or acromionectomy, partial, with or without coracoacromial ligament release
23140	Excision or curettage of bone cyst or benign tumor of clavicle or scapula;
23145	Excision or curettage of bone cyst or benign tumor of clavicle or scapula; with autograft (includes obtaining graft)
23146	Excision or curettage of bone cyst or benign tumor of clavicle or scapula; with allograft
23150	Excision or curettage of bone cyst or benign tumor of proximal humerus;
23155	Excision or curettage of bone cyst or benign tumor of proximal humerus; with autograft (includes obtaining graft)
23156	Excision or curettage of bone cyst or benign tumor of proximal humerus; with allograft
23182	Partial excision (craterization, saucerization, or diaphysectomy) bone (e.g. osteomyelitis), proximal humerus
23210	Radical resection for tumor; scapula
23410	Repair of ruptured musculotendinous cuff (e.g. rotator cuff) open; acute
23412	Repair of ruptured musculotendinous cuff (e.g. rotator cuff) open; chronic
23415	Coracoacromial ligament release, with or without acromioplasty
23420	Reconstruction of complete shoulder (rotator) cuff avulsion, chronic (includes acromioplasty)
23450	Capsulorrhaphy, anterior; Putti-Platt procedure or Magnuson type operation
23455	Capsulorrhaphy, anterior; Putti-Platt procedure or Magnuson type operation; with labral repair (e.g. Bankart procedure)
23460	Capsulorrhaphy, anterior, any type; with bone block
23462	Capsulorrhaphy, anterior, any type; with coracoid process transfer
23465	Capsulorrhaphy, glenohumeral joint, posterior, with or without bone block
23466	Capsulorrhaphy, glenohumeral joint, any type multidirectional instability
23470	Arthroplasty, glenohumeral joint; hemiarthroplasty
23472	Arthroplasty, glenohumeral joint; total shoulder (glenoid and proximal humeral replacement (e.g. total shoulder)
23800	Arthrodesis, glenohumeral joint;
23802	Arthrodesis, glenohumeral joint; with autogenous graft (includes

- obtaining graft)
- 27360 Partial excision (craterization, saucerization, or diaphysectomy) bone, femur, proximal tibia and/or fibula (eg, osteomyelitis or bone abscess)
- 27365 Radical resection of tumor, bone, femur or knee
- 27405 Repair, primary, torn ligament and /or capsule, knee; collateral
- 27407 Repair, primary, torn ligament and /or capsule, knee; cruciate
- 27409 Repair, primary, torn ligament and /or capsule, knee; collateral and cruciate ligaments
- 27418 Anterior tibial tubercleplasty (eg, Maquet type procedure)
- 27424 Reconstruction of dislocating patella; with patellectomy
- 27445 Arthroplasty, knee, hinge prosthesis (e.g. Walldius type)
- 27446 Arthroplasty, knee, condyle and plateau; medial OR lateral compartment
- 27447 Arthroplasty, knee, condyle and plateau; medial AND lateral compartments with or without patella resurfacing (total knee arthroplasty)
- 27455 Osteotomy, proximal tibia, including fibular excision or osteotomy (includes correction of genu varus (bowleg) or genu valgus (knock-knee)); before epiphyseal closure
- 27457 Osteotomy, proximal tibia, including fibular excision or osteotomy (includes correction of genu varus (bowleg) or genu valgus (knock-knee)); after epiphyseal closure
- 27486 Revision of total knee arthroplasty, with or without allograft; one component
- 27487 Revision of total knee arthroplasty, with or without allograft; femoral and entire tibial component
- 27488 Removal of prosthesis, including total knee prosthesis methylmethacrylate with or without insertion of spacer, knee
- 29888 Arthroscopically aided anterior cruciate ligament repair/augmentation or reconstruction

DIAGNOSIS

These diagnoses are otherwise subject to medical policy as stated above

- 170.4 Malignant neoplasm of scapula and long bones of upper limb
- 213.4 Benign neoplasm of scapula and long bones of upper limb
- 711.01 Pyogenic arthritis, shoulder region
- 712.11 Chondrocalcinosis due to dicalcium phosphate crystals, shoulder region
- 712.21 Chondrocalcinosis due to pyrophosphate crystals, shoulder region
- 715.11 Primary localized osteoarthritis, shoulder region
- 715.16 Primary localized osteoarthritis, lower leg
- 715.26 Secondary localized osteoarthritis, lower leg
- 715.31 Localized osteoarthritis not specified whether primary or secondary, shoulder region

- 715.36 Localized osteoarthritis not specified whether primary or secondary, lower leg
- 715.91 Osteoarthritis, unspecified whether generalized or localized, shoulder region
- 715.96 Osteoarthritis, unspecified whether generalized or localized, lower leg
- 716.11 Traumatic arthropathy, shoulder region
- 716.16 Traumatic arthropathy, lower leg
- 718.01 Articular cartilage disorder, shoulder region
- 718.11 Loose body in shoulder joint
- 718.41 Contracture of shoulder joint
- 718.51 Ankylosis of joint of shoulder region
- 718.56 Ankylosis of lower leg joint
- 719.21 Villonodular synovitis, shoulder region
- 719.26 Villonodular synovitis, lower leg
- 726.10 Unspecified disorders of bursae and tendons in shoulder region
- 726.11 Calcifying tendinitis of shoulder
- 726.19 Other specified disorders of rotator cuff syndrome of shoulder and allied disorders
- 727.61 Complete rupture of rotator cuff
- 730.11 Chronic osteomyelitis, shoulder region
- 730.81 Other infections involving bone diseases classified elsewhere, shoulder region
- 733.41 Aseptic necrosis of head of humerus
- 811.11 Open fracture of acromial process of scapula
- 831.10 Open unspecified dislocation of shoulder
- 831.11 Open anterior dislocation of humerus
- 831.12 Open posterior dislocation of humerus
- 831.13 Open inferior dislocation of humerus
- 831.14 Open dislocation of acromioclavicular (joint)
- 840.7 Superior glenoid labrum lesion (SLAP)
- 844.2 Sprain and strain of cruciate ligament of knee
- 880.10 Open wound of shoulder region, complicated
- 880.20 Open wound of shoulder region, with tendon involvement
- 905.7 Late effect of sprain and strain without mention of tendon injury
- 927.00 Crushing injury of shoulder region
- V43.65 Knee joint replacement by other means

REFERENCES

1. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Orthopedic Liaison Committee, January 5, 2005 meeting.
2. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Anesthesia Liaison Committee, May 10, 2005 meeting.

Government Agency; Medical Society; and Other Authoritative Publications

1. American Medical Association, CPT (2004 edition).