

Medical Policy



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Title: Regional Nerve Block and General Anesthesia

Professional

Original Effective Date: November 1, 2005
Revision Date(s): February 5, 2014;
November 6, 2015
Current Effective Date: November 1, 2005

Institutional

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Revision Date(s): February 5, 2014;
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State and Federal mandates and health plan member contract language, including specific provisions/exclusions, take precedence over Medical Policy and must be considered first in determining eligibility for coverage. To verify a member's benefits, contact [Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Customer Service](#).

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The medical policies do not constitute medical advice or medical care. Treating health care providers are independent contractors and are neither employees nor agents of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas and are solely responsible for diagnosis, treatment and medical advice.

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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. A regional nerve block will be allowed preoperatively for pain control along with general anesthesia for the following:
 - 1. Shoulder surgeries (arthroscopic or otherwise) that involve cutting or drilling of the bone including placement of suture anchors.
 - 2. Knee surgeries – ACL (anterior cruciate ligament), Fulkerson, High Tibial Osteotomy, and Total knee replacement, repair, or revision

- B. A regional nerve block will **not** be allowed preoperatively for pain control along with general anesthesia for the following:
 - 1. Diagnostic arthroscopic shoulder surgery that does not involve cutting or drilling of the bone or placement of suture anchors
 - 2. Knee surgeries not listed above
 - 3. All other surgeries not listed

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

- D. 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

The following codes for treatment and procedures applicable to this policy are included below for informational purposes. Inclusion or exclusion of a procedure, diagnosis or device code(s) does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement. Please refer to the member's contract benefits in effect at the time of service to determine coverage or non-coverage of these services as it applies to an individual member.

CPT/HCPCS

- 23035 Incision, bone cortex (eg, 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 (eg, osteomyelitis), proximal humerus
- 23210 Radical resection for tumor; scapula
- 23410 Repair of ruptured musculotendinous cuff (eg, rotator cuff) open; acute
- 23412 Repair of ruptured musculotendinous cuff (eg, 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; with labral repair (eg, 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 multi-directional instability
- 23470 Arthroplasty, glenohumeral joint; hemiarthroplasty
- 23472 Arthroplasty, glenohumeral joint; total shoulder (glenoid and proximal humeral replacement (eg, 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 (eg, 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; 1 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

ICD-9 Diagnoses

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

ICD-10 Diagnoses (Effective October 1, 2015)

C40.02	Malignant neoplasm of scapula and long bones of left upper limb
D16.01	Benign neoplasm of scapula and long bones of right upper limb
M00.011	Staphylococcal arthritis, right shoulder
M00.012	Staphylococcal arthritis, left shoulder
M00.111	Pneumococcal arthritis, right shoulder
M00.112	Pneumococcal arthritis, left shoulder
M00.212	Other streptococcal arthritis, left shoulder
M00.811	Arthritis due to other bacteria, right shoulder
M00.812	Arthritis due to other bacteria, left shoulder
M11.811	Other specified crystal arthropathies, right shoulder
M11.812	Other specified crystal arthropathies, left shoulder
M12.211	Villonodular synovitis (pigmented), right shoulder
M12.212	Villonodular synovitis (pigmented), left shoulder
M12.261	Villonodular synovitis (pigmented), right knee
M12.262	Villonodular synovitis (pigmented), left knee
M12.511	Traumatic arthropathy, right shoulder
M12.512	Traumatic arthropathy, left shoulder
M12.561	Traumatic arthropathy, right knee
M12.562	Traumatic arthropathy, left knee
M17.0	Bilateral primary osteoarthritis of knee
M17.11	Unilateral primary osteoarthritis, right knee
M17.12	Unilateral primary osteoarthritis, left knee
M17.31	Unilateral post-traumatic osteoarthritis, right knee
M17.32	Unilateral post-traumatic osteoarthritis, left knee
M17.4	Other bilateral secondary osteoarthritis of knee
M17.5	Other unilateral secondary osteoarthritis of knee
M19.011	Primary osteoarthritis, right shoulder
M19.012	Primary osteoarthritis, left shoulder
M24.011	Loose body in right shoulder
M24.012	Loose body in left shoulder
M24.111	Other articular cartilage disorders, right shoulder
M24.112	Other articular cartilage disorders, left shoulder
M24.511	Contracture, right shoulder
M24.512	Contracture, left shoulder
M24.611	Ankylosis, right shoulder

M24.612	Ankylosis, left shoulder
M24.661	Ankylosis, right knee
M24.662	Ankylosis, left knee
M66.211	Spontaneous rupture of extensor tendons, right shoulder
M66.212	Spontaneous rupture of extensor tendons, left shoulder
M66.811	Spontaneous rupture of other tendons, right shoulder
M66.812	Spontaneous rupture of other tendons, left shoulder
M75.101	Unspecified rotator cuff tear or rupture of right shoulder, not specified as traumatic
M75.102	Unspecified rotator cuff tear or rupture of left shoulder, not specified as traumatic
M75.121	Complete rotator cuff tear or rupture of right shoulder, not specified as traumatic
M75.122	Complete rotator cuff tear or rupture of left shoulder, not specified as traumatic
M75.31	Calcific tendinitis of right shoulder
M75.32	Calcific tendinitis of left shoulder
M75.51	Bursitis of right shoulder
M75.52	Bursitis of left shoulder
M75.81	Other shoulder lesions, right shoulder
M75.82	Other shoulder lesions, left shoulder
M86.311	Chronic multifocal osteomyelitis, right shoulder
M86.312	Chronic multifocal osteomyelitis, left shoulder
M86.411	Chronic osteomyelitis with draining sinus, right shoulder
M86.412	Chronic osteomyelitis with draining sinus, left shoulder
M86.511	Other chronic hematogenous osteomyelitis, right shoulder
M86.512	Other chronic hematogenous osteomyelitis, left shoulder
M86.611	Other chronic osteomyelitis, right shoulder
M86.612	Other chronic osteomyelitis, left shoulder
M86.8x1	Other osteomyelitis, shoulder
M87.021	Idiopathic aseptic necrosis of right humerus
M87.022	Idiopathic aseptic necrosis of left humerus
M87.122	Osteonecrosis due to drugs, left humerus
M87.221	Osteonecrosis due to previous trauma, right humerus
M87.222	Osteonecrosis due to previous trauma, left humerus
M87.321	Other secondary osteonecrosis, right humerus
M87.322	Other secondary osteonecrosis, left humerus
M87.821	Other osteonecrosis, right humerus
M87.822	Other osteonecrosis, left humerus
M90.511	Osteonecrosis in diseases classified elsewhere, right shoulder
M90.512	Osteonecrosis in diseases classified elsewhere, left shoulder
M90.811	Osteopathy in diseases classified elsewhere, right shoulder
M90.812	Osteopathy in diseases classified elsewhere, left shoulder
S41.001A	Unspecified open wound of right shoulder, initial encounter
S41.001D	Unspecified open wound of right shoulder, subsequent encounter
S41.001S	Unspecified open wound of right shoulder, sequela
S41.002A	Unspecified open wound of left shoulder, initial encounter
S41.002D	Unspecified open wound of left shoulder, subsequent encounter
S41.002S	Unspecified open wound of left shoulder, sequela
S41.011A	Laceration without foreign body of right shoulder, initial encounter
S41.011D	Laceration without foreign body of right shoulder, subsequent encounter
S41.011S	Laceration without foreign body of right shoulder, sequela

- S41.012A Laceration without foreign body of left shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.012D Laceration without foreign body of left shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.012S Laceration without foreign body of left shoulder, sequela
- S41.021A Laceration with foreign body of right shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.021D Laceration with foreign body of right shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.021S Laceration with foreign body of right shoulder, sequela
- S41.022A Laceration with foreign body of left shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.022D Laceration with foreign body of left shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.022S Laceration with foreign body of left shoulder, sequela
- S41.031A Puncture wound without foreign body of right shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.031D Puncture wound without foreign body of right shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.031S Puncture wound without foreign body of right shoulder, sequela
- S41.032A Puncture wound without foreign body of left shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.032D Puncture wound without foreign body of left shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.032S Puncture wound without foreign body of left shoulder, sequela
- S41.041A Puncture wound with foreign body of right shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.041D Puncture wound with foreign body of right shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.041S Puncture wound with foreign body of right shoulder, sequela
- S41.042A Puncture wound with foreign body of left shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.042D Puncture wound with foreign body of left shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.042S Puncture wound with foreign body of left shoulder, sequela
- S41.051A Open bite of right shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.051D Open bite of right shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.051S Open bite of right shoulder, sequela
- S41.052A Open bite of left shoulder, initial encounter
- S41.052D Open bite of left shoulder, subsequent encounter
- S41.052S Open bite of left shoulder, sequela
- S41.101A Unspecified open wound of right upper arm, initial encounter
- S41.101D Unspecified open wound of right upper arm, subsequent encounter
- S41.101S Unspecified open wound of right upper arm, sequela
- S41.102A Unspecified open wound of left upper arm, initial encounter
- S41.102D Unspecified open wound of left upper arm, subsequent encounter
- S41.102S Unspecified open wound of left upper arm, sequela
- S42.121B Displaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, initial encounter for open fracture
- S42.121D Displaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
- S42.121G Displaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
- S42.121K Displaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
- S42.121P Displaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with malunion
- S42.121S Displaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, sequela
- S42.122B Displaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, initial encounter for open fracture
- S42.122D Displaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing

- S42.122G Displaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
- S42.122K Displaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
- S42.122P Displaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with malunion
- S42.122S Displaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, sequela
- S42.124B Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, initial encounter for open fracture
- S42.124D Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
- S42.124G Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
- S42.124K Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
- S42.124P Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with malunion
- S42.124S Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, right shoulder, sequela
- S42.125B Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, initial encounter for open fracture
- S42.125D Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
- S42.125G Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
- S42.125K Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
- S42.125P Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, subsequent encounter for fracture with malunion
- S42.125S Nondisplaced fracture of acromial process, left shoulder, sequela
- S43.004A Unspecified dislocation of right shoulder joint, initial encounter
- S43.004D Unspecified dislocation of right shoulder joint, subsequent encounter
- S43.004S Unspecified dislocation of right shoulder joint, sequela
- S43.005A Unspecified dislocation of left shoulder joint, initial encounter
- S43.005D Unspecified dislocation of left shoulder joint, subsequent encounter
- S43.005S Unspecified dislocation of left shoulder joint, sequela
- S43.014A Anterior dislocation of right humerus, initial encounter
- S43.014D Anterior dislocation of right humerus, subsequent encounter
- S43.014S Anterior dislocation of right humerus, sequela
- S43.015A Anterior dislocation of left humerus, initial encounter
- S43.015D Anterior dislocation of left humerus, subsequent encounter
- S43.015S Anterior dislocation of left humerus, sequela
- S43.024A Posterior dislocation of right humerus, initial encounter
- S43.024D Posterior dislocation of right humerus, subsequent encounter
- S43.024S Posterior dislocation of right humerus, sequela
- S43.025A Posterior dislocation of left humerus, initial encounter
- S43.025D Posterior dislocation of left humerus, subsequent encounter
- S43.025S Posterior dislocation of left humerus, sequela
- S43.034A Inferior dislocation of right humerus, initial encounter

S43.034D	Inferior dislocation of right humerus, subsequent encounter
S43.034S	Inferior dislocation of right humerus, sequela
S43.035A	Inferior dislocation of left humerus, initial encounter
S43.035D	Inferior dislocation of left humerus, subsequent encounter
S43.035S	Inferior dislocation of left humerus, sequela
S43.101A	Unspecified dislocation of right acromioclavicular joint, initial encounter
S43.101D	Unspecified dislocation of right acromioclavicular joint, subsequent encounter
S43.101S	Unspecified dislocation of right acromioclavicular joint, sequela
S43.102A	Unspecified dislocation of left acromioclavicular joint, initial encounter
S43.102D	Unspecified dislocation of left acromioclavicular joint, subsequent encounter
S43.102S	Unspecified dislocation of left acromioclavicular joint, sequela
S43.431A	Superior glenoid labrum lesion of right shoulder, initial encounter
S43.431D	Superior glenoid labrum lesion of right shoulder, subsequent encounter
S43.431S	Superior glenoid labrum lesion of right shoulder, sequela
S43.432A	Superior glenoid labrum lesion of left shoulder, initial encounter
S43.432D	Superior glenoid labrum lesion of left shoulder, subsequent encounter
S43.432S	Superior glenoid labrum lesion of left shoulder, sequela
S46.901A	Unspecified injury of unspecified muscle, fascia and tendon at shoulder and upper arm level, right arm, initial encounter
S46.901D	Unspecified injury of unspecified muscle, fascia and tendon at shoulder and upper arm level, right arm, subsequent encounter
S46.901S	Unspecified injury of unspecified muscle, fascia and tendon at shoulder and upper arm level, right arm, sequela
S46.902A	Unspecified injury of unspecified muscle, fascia and tendon at shoulder and upper arm level, left arm, initial encounter
S46.902D	Unspecified injury of unspecified muscle, fascia and tendon at shoulder and upper arm level, left arm, subsequent encounter
S46.902S	Unspecified injury of unspecified muscle, fascia and tendon at shoulder and upper arm level, left arm, sequela
S47.1xxA	Crushing injury of right shoulder and upper arm, initial encounter
S47.1xxD	Crushing injury of right shoulder and upper arm, subsequent encounter
S47.1xxS	Crushing injury of right shoulder and upper arm, sequela
S47.2xxA	Crushing injury of left shoulder and upper arm, initial encounter
S47.2xxD	Crushing injury of left shoulder and upper arm, subsequent encounter
S47.2xxS	Crushing injury of left shoulder and upper arm, sequela
S83.501A	Sprain of unspecified cruciate ligament of right knee, initial encounter
S83.511A	Sprain of anterior cruciate ligament of right knee, initial encounter
S83.511D	Sprain of anterior cruciate ligament of right knee, subsequent encounter
S83.511S	Sprain of anterior cruciate ligament of right knee, sequela
S83.512A	Sprain of anterior cruciate ligament of left knee, initial encounter
S83.512D	Sprain of anterior cruciate ligament of left knee, subsequent encounter
S83.512S	Sprain of anterior cruciate ligament of left knee, sequela
S83.521A	Sprain of posterior cruciate ligament of right knee, initial encounter
S83.521D	Sprain of posterior cruciate ligament of right knee, subsequent encounter
S83.521S	Sprain of posterior cruciate ligament of right knee, sequela
S83.522A	Sprain of posterior cruciate ligament of left knee, initial encounter
S83.522D	Sprain of posterior cruciate ligament of left knee, subsequent encounter
S83.522S	Sprain of posterior cruciate ligament of left knee, sequela

- Z96.651 Presence of right artificial knee joint
 Z96.652 Presence of left artificial knee joint
 Z96.653 Presence of artificial knee joint, bilateral

REVISIONS

02-05-2014	In Policy section:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formatted the policy language. No intent was changed.
	Added Medical Policy and Coding Disclaimers.
	In Policy section:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In Item A, 2, inserted "(anterior cruciate ligament)" for clarification.
11-06-2015	In Coding section:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Added ICD-10 Diagnosis codes. <i>(Effective October 1, 2014)</i>
	Updated Reference section.
11-06-2015	Policy reviewed.
	In Coding section:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPT Code Nomenclature Update: 23455 ▪ ICD-10 Code added: M00.812 ▪ ICD-10 Codes removed: M00.819, M17.9, M19.90, M66.219, M75.120, S41.109A, S41.109D, S41.109S, S42.123D, S42.123G, S42.123K, S42.123P, S42.123S, S42.126B, S42.126K, S42.126P, S43.006A, S43.006D, S43.006S, S43.016A, S43.016D, S43.016S, S43.026A, S43.026D, S43.026S, S43.036A, S43.036D, S43.036S, S83.501D, S83.501S, S83.502A, S83.502D, S83.502S 	

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.