

## **Coding Guidelines**

### **LCD Database ID Number**

L30483

### **LCD Title**

Paravertebral Facet Joint Block and Facet Joint Denervation

### **Contractor's Determination Number**

NEURO-008

## **Coding Information**

### **General**

#### **Paravertebral Facet Joint Injection**

1. Each CPT code listed (single level, second level, third and any additional levels) may be billed with a Modifier 50 when injecting a level bilaterally. For one level unilateral or bilateral CPT codes 64490 or 64493 should be used. If the facet joint injection is performed at more than one level unilateral or bilateral CPT codes 64491, 64492, 64494 or 64495 should be used for the additional levels. For bilateral procedures Modifier 50 should be appended to the procedure codes with number of services of one.
2. Use the appropriate CPT code in Item 24D on the CMS-1500 claim form (or electronic equivalent) and link it to the applicable ICD-9-CM code listed above under the ICD-9-CM Codes that Support Medical Necessity section.
3. Fluoroscopic and CT guidance and localization for needle placement, is included in codes 64490-64495.
4. If the injection is made around or into the spinal nerve, the service should be billed as a paravertebral nerve injection.
5. When destruction of the facet joint nerve is performed following the blockage, only the codes for the nerve destruction should be billed since their allowance includes that of the facet nerve blockage procedure.

#### **Paravertebral Facet Joint Denervation**

1. If a provider denervates only one level, unilateral or bilateral, CPT codes 64622 or 64626 should be used. If the denervation is performed at more than one level, unilateral or bilateral, CPT codes 64623 and 64627 should be used for each of the subsequent levels. If denervation is performed bilaterally, Modifier 50 should be appended to the procedure code with number of services of one.
2. Use the appropriate CPT code in Item 24D on the CMS-1500 form (or electronic equivalent) and link it to the applicable ICD-9-CM code in Item 24E (or electronic equivalent).
3. Fluoroscopic guidance and localization for needle placement, is included in codes 64622-64627.

### **Start Date of Notice Period**

02/01/2010

**Revision History Number/Explanation**