

Molina Clinical Policy

Implanted Intrathecal (Intraspinal) Infusion Therapy for Chronic Pain Policy No. 160

Last Approval: 8/11/2021

Next Review Due By: August 2022



DISCLAIMER

This Molina Clinical Policy (MCP) is intended to facilitate the Utilization Management process. Policies are not a supplementation or recommendation for treatment; Providers are solely responsible for the diagnosis, treatment and clinical recommendations for the Member. It expresses Molina's determination as to whether certain services or supplies are medically necessary, experimental, investigational, or cosmetic for purposes of determining appropriateness of payment. The conclusion that a particular service or supply is medically necessary does not constitute a representation or warranty that this service or supply is covered (e.g., will be paid for by Molina) for a particular Member. The Member's benefit plan determines coverage – each benefit plan defines which services are covered, which are excluded, and which are subject to dollar caps or other limits. Members and their Providers will need to consult the Member's benefit plan to determine if there are any exclusion(s) or other benefit limitations applicable to this service or supply. If there is a discrepancy between this policy and a Member's plan of benefits, the benefits plan will govern. In addition, coverage may be mandated by applicable legal requirements of a State, the Federal government or CMS for Medicare and Medicaid Members. CMS's Coverage Database can be found on the CMS website. The coverage directive(s) and criteria from an existing National Coverage Determination (NCD) or Local Coverage Determination (LCD) will supersede the contents of this MCP and provide the directive for all Medicare members. References included were accurate at the time of policy approval and publication.

OVERVIEW

Chronic pain is defined as, "pain that persists 6 months after an injury and beyond the usual course of an acute disease or a reasonable time for a comparable injury to heal, that is associated with chronic pathologic processes that cause continuous or intermittent pain for months or years, that may continue in the presence or absence of demonstrable pathologies; may not be amenable to routine pain control methods; and healing may never occur." In contrast, chronic pain syndrome has been defined as a complex condition with physical, psychological, emotional, and social components.⁴ Chronic pain is defined by three general parameters: persistence beyond an expected time frame for healing or recovery, non-responsiveness to routine pain control methods or to appropriate surgical interventions, and adversely affecting functional ability or wellbeing. The term "chronic pain syndrome" describes a chronic condition characterized by symptoms of pain and significant psychological dysfunction as evidenced by anger, anxiety, depression, loss of appetite, difficulty sleeping, and impaired interpersonal relationships. Chronic pain can be categorized as malignant or non-malignant. Pain, including non-malignant chronic pain, is classified as nociceptive, neuropathic, of mixed or undetermined pathology, or psychologically based. Causes of nociceptive pain include trauma, arthropathies, myalgias, visceral abnormalities, ischemic disorders, and systemic inflammatory disorders, such as polymyalgia rheumatica. Neuropathic pain may result from a variety of conditions, including nerve injuries, postherpetic neuralgia, trigeminal neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, the postamputation state, myelopathy, radiculopathy, arachnoiditis, and root sleeve fibrosis. Chronic recurrent headaches, painful vasculitis, fibromyalgia, and myofascial pain syndrome comprise the majority of chronic pain syndromes of mixed or undetermined pathology. Psychologically based pain syndromes include somatization disorders and hysterical reactions.⁵

Treatment strategies for chronic pain generally begin with the least invasive and least expensive interventions such as exercise programs, meditation and relaxation, and nonprescription analgesics or anti-inflammatory drugs. If these treatments are ineffective, oral opioids may be used alone or with adjunctive medications such as antidepressants, calcium channel blockers, alpha- and beta-blockers, and steroids. Local or regional nerve blocks, transcutaneous electrical stimulation, or electrical stimulation of the spinal cord may also be used to provide pain relief. If adequate pain relief is not achieved with any of these strategies or if the side effects are intolerable, intrathecal infusion of opioids may provide effective pain relief, while limiting the pharmacologic side effects of chronic systemic opioid administration. For this therapy, an implantable infusion pump delivers continuous infusions of the drug directly into the cerebrospinal fluid via a catheter placed in the intrathecal space.⁶

Implantable infusion pump (IIP) used for the delivery of intrathecal (intraspinal) opiates is a drug delivery system that provides continuous infusion of an agent at a constant and precise rate. The purpose of an IIP is to deliver therapeutic levels of a drug directly to a target organ or specific body region for a prolonged period of time. These pumps provide the long-term delivery of opioid (narcotic) medication in the management of malignant (cancer) pain and nonmalignant (non-cancer) pain. The drug reservoir can be refilled as needed through an external needle injection port in the pump. The infusion pump may be either nonprogrammable fixed-rate (i.e., deliver a predetermined steady rate of infusion) and generate flow by fluorocarbon propellant or programmable (ie, variable delivery rates) and generate flow by direct electromechanical action. Fixed-rate infusion pumps allow the physician to change the dose by changing the

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concentration of the drug in the reservoir, whereas programmable infusion pumps allow the physician to alter the dose, give single doses, timed-specific doses, or change the continuous infusion rate with an external programmer.⁷

IIP for administration of intraspinal (neuraxial) opioid therapy may be appropriate for patients who continue to suffer from severe pain despite aggressive attempts at oral and parenteral pain management, and for patients who have a large tumor in a deep abdominal or pelvic structure, who experience radicular lower extremity pain caused by a tumor. Intraspinal opioid therapy is also an early option when systemically administered opioids are not effective because of dose-limiting side effects, tolerance, or because the type of pain responds poorly to opioids. This route of administration, as compared with other routes, provides increased analgesia at a lower dose of drug and, therefore, causes fewer side effects. Drug delivery systems include placement of a short-term, external catheter, for terminal cancer patients, and as a trial for an implantable pump, and long-term implantable infusion pumps, for cancer patients with a life expectancy greater than 3 months, and for ambulatory patients with chronic pain. Placement of the trial catheter may be performed in an outpatient setting with successful titration accomplished within 23 hours; however, patients receiving morphine should remain in observation the entire time in case of respiratory distress. Hospital admission may be indicated for patients with comorbid conditions or in cases of respiratory complications. For terminal cancer patients, the short-term epidural catheter can be implanted in the hospice or home environment with minimal risk of infection. Long-term complications following spinal catheter implantation include infection, epidural abscess, and catheter dislodgement or occlusion.⁸

Regulatory Status

The FDA has approved several implantable miniature pumps that are suitable for continuous intrathecal administration of opioid drug therapy. Programmable, implantable infusion pumps are regulated by the FDA as Class III devices.³

COVERAGE POLICY

Implanted intrathecal infusion pump therapy for administration of intraspinal opioid or non-opioid analgesic therapy **may be considered medically necessary** for adults with severe chronic, intractable pain when **ALL** of the following criteria are met:

1. Prescribed and administered by a board-certified pain management specialist

AND

2. Documentation or attestation that member has no contraindications to prescribed therapy

AND

3. A temporary trial of spinal (epidural or intrathecal) opiates or non-opiate analgesics has been successful as defined by a 50% reduction in pain, prior to permanent implantation (refer to 'Limitations and Exclusions' below for contraindications to therapy)

NOTE: In order for the temporary trial to be authorized the following criteria (4A OR 4B) must be met for treatment of malignant or non-malignant pain.

AND

4. Member meets **ONE** of the following criteria (**A OR B**) according to diagnosis:

- A. **Treatment of Malignant Pain** (e.g., pain associated with cancer that includes tumor infiltration or metastases)
 - a. Diagnosis of severe, intractable pain of *cancer* origin affecting activity of daily living functional ability (>6 on the NRS Pain Rating Scale*)

AND

- b. Life expectancy of at least 3 months

AND

- c. Documentation that systemic opioid or other analgesic therapy has failed to provide adequate pain relief **OR** intolerable side effects to systemic methods of pain control have developed

- B. **Treatment of Non-Malignant Pain** (e.g., pain not associated with cancer) is considered medically necessary when **ALL** of the following are met:

- a. Diagnosis of severe, intractable pain of non-cancer origin affecting activity of daily living functional ability (>6 on the NRS Pain Rating Scale*);

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AND

- b. Documentation that a trial of conservative treatment modalities has been tried and failed for a minimum of six (6) months including pharmacologic, surgical, psychologic or physical treatment, if appropriate and not contraindicated;

AND

- c. No further surgical interventions are indicated;

AND

- d. Psychological evaluation has been obtained and documentation states that the pain is not psychologic in origin

***The Numeric Rating Scale (NRS-11) Rating Pain Level¹⁹**

0: No Pain

1 – 3: Mild Pain (nagging, annoying, interfering little with ADLs)

4 – 6: Moderate Pain (interferes significantly with ADLs)

7 – 10: Severe Pain (disabling; unable to perform ADLs)

LIMITATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

Epidural and Intrathecal Catheters are **contraindicated and may not be authorized** if **ANY** of the following circumstances are present:

1. Coagulopathy
2. Local infection at the catheter site
3. Increased intracranial pressure
4. Epidural metastases
5. Tumor encroachment on the thecal sac
6. Septicemia
7. Profound Leukopenia
8. Body size is insufficient to support the weight and bulk of the device
9. Presence of other implanted programmable devices
10. Known allergy or hypersensitivity to the drug being used
11. Untreated significant addiction
12. Active psychosis with delusional/hallucinatory components
13. Major uncontrolled depression/anxiety
14. Active suicidal or homicidal behavior
15. Serious cognitive deficits
16. Severe sleep disturbances

The following are considered **experimental, investigational and unproven** based on insufficient evidence:

1. Any indications other than those listed above

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS. Molina Healthcare reserves the right to require that additional documentation be made available as part of its coverage determination; quality improvement; and fraud; waste and abuse prevention processes. Documentation required may include, but is not limited to, patient records, test results and credentials of the provider ordering or performing a drug or service. Molina Healthcare may deny reimbursement or take additional appropriate action if the documentation provided does not support the initial determination that the drugs or services were medically necessary, not investigational or experimental, and otherwise within the scope of benefits afforded to the member, and/or the documentation demonstrates a pattern of billing or other practice that is inappropriate or excessive.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL EVIDENCE

Malignant (Cancer) Pain

Hayek et al. (2011) published a systematic review of intrathecal infusion through implanted drug delivery devices for chronic pain. The purpose of this systematic review is to evaluate and update the available evidence for the efficacy and safety of intrathecal infusions used in long-term management (> 6 months) of chronic pain. Studies are assessed using the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) criteria for observational studies and the Cochrane

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Musculoskeletal Review Group criteria for randomized trials. The level of evidence was determined using 5 levels of evidence, ranging from Level I to III with 3 subcategories in Level II, based on the quality of evidence developed by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). The primary outcome measure for chronic non-cancer is pain relief (short-term relief \leq one-year and long-term $>$ one-year), whereas it is 3 months for cancer. Secondary outcome measures of improvement in functional status, psychological status, return to work, and reduction in opioid intake. The level of evidence for this systematic review of non-cancer pain studies meeting the inclusion criteria of continuous use of an intrathecal drug delivery system (IDDS) for at least 12 months duration with at least 25 patients in the cohort, is Level II-3 based on USPSTF criteria. The level of evidence for this systemic review for cancer-related pain studies meeting the inclusion criteria of continuous use of IDDS for at least 3 months duration with at least 25 patients in the cohort is Level II-2 based on USPSTF criteria. Based on the available evidence, the recommendation for intrathecal infusion systems for cancer-related pain is moderate recommendation based on the high quality of evidence and the recommendation is limited to moderate based on the moderate quality of evidence from non-randomized studies for non-cancer related pain.²¹

Deer et al. (2011) outlined consensus guidelines for the implementation of intrathecal therapy in patients with cancer-related pain and other end of life states causing pain. Evidence was compiled, ranked, and strength considered by an invited panel of well-published and innovative clinician research leaders in pain medicine. Based on that analysis, an accumulation of evidence from observational and randomized prospective trials supports the use of intrathecal (IT) drug delivery to provide effective analgesia for patients with cancer-related pain, including individuals at the end of life. Although not all patients are candidates for this invasive treatment modality, clinicians can determine the appropriateness of proceeding with device implantation by carefully evaluating the individual's overall medical status, psychological stability, social support system, and prognosis of disease. Further, consumption of health care resources and cost-effective treatment is becoming more of a priority; not only is this therapy appropriate medically, but also economically. This multifaceted approach to patient selection assists in maximizing treatment effect and avoiding unintended consequences of therapy. With careful consideration of the patient's medical comorbidities and prior therapies, communication with the oncologist, proper psychological evaluation, and appropriate trialing technique, clinicians can effectively optimize the use of IT therapy for cancer pain. The panel advocates for a much wider application of IT therapy to provide meaningful analgesia for patients with cancer pain, including those at the end of life from a variety of causes.¹²

Meyers et al. (2010) performed a systematic review of the literature to evaluate the effectiveness of intraspinal techniques in the setting of cancer pain. 12 RCTs were identified on intraspinal techniques for managing pain in cancer patients. To be included in the review studies are required to report pain as an outcome measure using a validated scale. The investigators did not identify the type or types of cancer addressed in individual studies and did not pool study findings. Two RCTs specifically addressed implantable infusion pumps. One compared intrathecal morphine delivered via an implantable infusion pump plus medical management (n=101) to medical management alone (n=99) in patients with refractory cancer pain. The difference between groups in clinical success (defined as at least 20% reduction in pain score and at least 20% reduction in drug toxicity at 4 weeks) reached borderline statistical significance, favoring the implantable pump group over the control group (85% vs. 71%, respectively, p=0.05). The proportion of patients who experienced pain score reduction was 52% in the implantable pain pump group and 39% in the control group; this was not a statistically significant difference (p=0.55). The other RCT on implantable pumps compared epidural morphine delivered as a continuous infusion by the Infusaid pump to intermittent delivery by a Port-a-Cath® (Deltec, Saint Paul, MN). The 2 groups did not differ significantly in their pain scores; scores were low in both groups and the study, which had only 29 participants, was likely underpowered. The authors of the systematic review concluded that intraspinal techniques may be appropriate for selected cancer patients with intractable cancer pain and that intraspinal analgesia is equally or more effective than conventional medical management and often associated with fewer side effects.²⁸

Non-Malignant Pain

Raphael et al. (2013) performed a small randomized, double-blind, controlled, parallel group trial to investigate the efficacy of intrathecal morphine in the long term by hypothesizing that a reduction of the intrathecal opioid dose following long-term administration would increase the level of pain intensity. Participants included 24 patients with non-cancer pain implanted with morphine reservoirs that were assessed for eligibility. Primary outcomes were visual analogue scale (VAS) pain score change and withdrawal from the study due to lack of efficacy. 9 of the patients assessed for eligibility declined to participate in the study. 15 patients were randomized to control (n=5) or intervention

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(n=10) and included in an intention-to-treat analysis. Owing to worsening of pain, seven patients withdrew from the study prematurely. None knew prior to withdrawal which arm of the study they were in, but all turned out to be in the dose-reduction arm. The calculation of dropout rates between groups indicated a significant statistical difference ($p=0.026$) and recruitment was ceased. The VAS change between baseline and the last observation was smaller in the control group (median, $Mdn=11$) than in the intervention group ($Mdn=30.5$), although not statistically significant, $Z=-1.839$, $p=0.070$; $r=-0.47$. Within groups, VAS was significantly lower at baseline ($Mdn=49.5$) than at the last observation ($Mdn=77.5$) for the reduction group, $Z=-2.805$, $p=0.002$; $r=-0.627$ but not for the control group ($p=0.188$). In conclusion, this double-blind randomised controlled trial of chronic intrathecal morphine administration suggests the effectiveness of this therapy for the management of chronic non-cancer pain.²²

Hamza et al. (2012) performed a small prospective, cohort long-term outcome study with the use of low-dose opioids in intrathecal (IT) drug delivery system (DDS) for the treatment of intractable, severe chronic nonmalignant pain. A total of 61 consecutive patients (60% females, 40% males) with a mean age of 59.2 years and a mean duration of symptoms prior to implant of 6.2 years were referred for implant of DDS for severe intractable non-cancer pain. After adequate patient evaluation, each underwent a trial with IT opioids. Three patients failed the trial and 58 patients were implanted. Follow-up was 36 months, with intervals at 6, 12, 18, 24, and 36 months. The Brief Pain Inventory was used for follow-up assessment criteria at baseline prior to implant as well as throughout the duration of the study. Outcome measures included self-reported pain scores (worst and average), functional improvement, and IT dose, and oral opioid consumption. A statistically significant reduction in both worst and average pain from baseline throughout the duration of the study was observed. Also documented was a statistically significant improvement in physical and behavioral function. All subjects showed a significant reduction in the oral opioid consumption. The dose of IT opioids remained low and virtually unchanged for 36 months of follow-up: 1.4 morphine equivalent/day at 6 months and 1.48 at 36 months. Oral opioid averaged 128.9mg of morphine equivalent/patient/day at baseline to 3.8 at 3 month and remained at the same level throughout the study. The authors concluded that low-dose IT opioid can provide sustained significant improvement in pain and function for long-term follow-up in chronic non-cancer pain.²⁶

Duarte and colleagues (2012) published a case series with long-term follow-up on 20 patients with chronic nonmalignant pain who received intrathecal delivery of opioid analgesics. Patients were followed for a mean of 13.5 years (range: 10.4 to 17.9 years). At 4-year and 13-year assessments, outcomes were significantly improved compared to baseline. However, outcomes did not significantly improve between 4 and 13 years. For example, mean pain intensity (measured on an 11-point scale where 0 represents no pain and 10 represents the worst pain) was 8.65 (SD: 0.29) at baseline, 4.95 (SD: 0.53) at 4 years post-treatment, and 5.30 (SD: 0.35) at 13 years post-treatment. Similarly, the mean quality-of-life score (0 represents no interference with quality of life and 10 represents maximum interference) was 8.45 (SD: 0.49) at baseline, 4.95 (SD: 0.69) at 4 years, and 4.45 (SD: 0.48) at 13 years.³⁰

Deer et al. (2010 and updated 2017) published consensus guidelines for intrathecal therapy as an invasive alternative for the long-term management of select patients with intractable pain associated with various disease states, including those of non-cancer origin. It is commonly accepted that proper patient selection is essential to optimizing treatment outcomes, yet the practice of candidate selection for device implantation varies widely. A multifaceted approach--with consideration of preexisting medical comorbidities; psychological status; associated social, technical, and economic issues; and response to intrathecal trialing--enables practitioners to fully evaluate the appropriateness of implanting a patient with an intrathecal drug delivery system. Yet, to date no standard set of guidelines have been developed to aid practitioners in navigating this evaluation process. Using experience- and knowledge-based expert opinion to systematically evaluate the available evidence, this article provides consensus guidelines aimed at optimizing the selection of patients with noncancer pain for intrathecal therapy. In conclusion, complete assessment of a patient's physical, psychological, and social characteristics, can guide practitioners in determining the appropriateness of initiating intrathecal therapy. These consensus guidelines are intended to assist with weighing this risk/benefit ratio of intrathecal therapy, thereby minimizing the potential for treatment failure, unacceptable adverse effects, and excess mortality.¹²

Webster et al. (2009) performed an open-label multicenter study to evaluate the long-term safety and efficacy of intrathecal ziconotide. Participants included 78 patients with chronic pain who had completed one of two previous ziconotide clinical trials. Each patient's initial ziconotide dose was based on his or her dose from the study of origin and was adjusted as necessary on the basis of adverse events and analgesic effect. The median ziconotide dose was 6.48 mcg/day (range, 0.00-120.00 mcg/day) at the Initial Visit and ranged from 5.52 to 7.20 mcg/day across all study

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visits. The most commonly reported new adverse events that were considered ziconotide related were memory impairment (11.3%); dizziness, nystagmus, and speech disorder (8.5% each); nervousness and somnolence (7.0% each); and abnormal gait (5.6%). There was no evidence of increased adverse event incidence at higher cumulative ziconotide doses. Elevations in creatine kinase were noted, but the proportion of patients with creatine kinase elevations did not change from the Initial Visit to the Termination Visit (4.1% each). Stable mean Visual Analog Scale of Pain Intensity scores during the three years of the study suggested no evidence of increased pain intensity with increased duration of ziconotide exposure. Long-term treatment with ziconotide appeared to be well tolerated and effective in patients whose response to ziconotide and ability to tolerate the drug had been previously demonstrated.²⁷

Patel et al. (2009) performed a systematic review on intrathecal infusion pumps used to treat chronic non-cancer pain. To be included in the review, studies needed to evaluate an intrathecal device (programmable or fixed infusion rate), state a specific indication and the drug that was injected, follow patients for at least 12 months, and include at least 25 patients. In addition, the investigators rated study quality and, to be included, studies needed to score at least 50 out of 100 on a methodologic quality scale. The primary outcome of interest to the systematic review was pain relief. A total of 15 studies on intrathecal infusion for non-cancer pain were identified; however, 6 did not have sufficient follow-up, 4 included fewer than 25 patients, and 1 had unacceptably low quality, leaving 4 eligible studies. All of the studies were observational and involved intrathecal opioid administration; sample sizes ranged from 69 to 120. Most patients experienced lumbosacral pain. Two of the 4 studies showed positive results for pain relief, one study had negative results, and results were not available for the fourth study. The authors of the systematic review acknowledged the paucity of literature and lack of RCTs. The level of evidence for intrathecal infusion systems indicated either Level II-3 or Level III (limited) based on U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) criteria.²⁹

A **Cochrane review** "Opioids for neuropathic pain" published in 2013 reassessed the efficacy and safety of opioid agonists for the treatment of neuropathic pain. The review included randomized controlled trials (RCTs) in which opioid agonists were given to treat central or peripheral neuropathic pain of any etiology. Pain was assessed using validated instruments, and adverse events were reported. Thirty-one trials met inclusion criteria, studying 10 different opioids: 23 studies from the original 2006 review and eight additional studies from this updated review. Seventeen studies (392 participants with neuropathic pain, average 22 participants per study) provided efficacy data for acute exposure to opioids over less than 24 hours. Sixteen reported pain outcomes, with contradictory results; 8/16 reported less pain with opioids than placebo, 2/16 reported that some but not all participants benefited, 5/16 reported no difference, and 1/16 reported equivocal results. Six studies with about 170 participants indicated that mean pain scores with opioid were about 15/100 points less than placebo. Fourteen studies (845 participants, average 60 participants per study) were of intermediate duration lasting 12 weeks or less; most studies lasted less than six weeks. Most studies used imputation methods for participant withdrawal known to be associated with considerable bias; none used a method known not to be associated with bias. The review concluded that since the last version of this review, new studies were found providing additional information. Data were reanalyzed but the results did not alter any of our previously published conclusions. Short-term studies provide only equivocal evidence regarding the efficacy of opioids in reducing the intensity of neuropathic pain. Intermediate-term studies demonstrated significant efficacy of opioids over placebo, but these results are likely to be subject to significant bias because of small size, short duration, and potentially inadequate handling of dropouts. Analgesic efficacy of opioids in chronic neuropathic pain is subject to considerable uncertainty. Reported adverse events of opioids were common but not life-threatening. Further RCTs are needed to establish unbiased estimates of long-term efficacy, safety (including addiction potential), and effects on quality of life.²⁰

Professional Society Guidelines

The American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) (2010) published practice guidelines for chronic pain management. Within the guidelines chronic pain is defined as pain of any etiology not directly related to neoplastic involvement, associated with a chronic medical condition or extending in duration beyond the expected temporal boundary of tissue injury and normal healing, and adversely affecting the function or well-being of the individual. Studies with observational findings indicate that intrathecal opioid injections can provide pain relief for assessment periods ranging from one to 12 months for patients with neuropathic pain. The guidelines indicate that intrathecal opioid injection or infusion may be used for patients with neuropathic pain and collective decision making regarding intrathecal opioid injection or infusion should include a specific discussion of potential complications. Neuraxial opioid trials should be performed before considering permanent implantation of intrathecal drug delivery systems. The ASA practice guideline for cancer pain

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management (1996) indicates there is sufficient literature to support the efficacy neuraxial analgesic delivery (i.e., epidural, subarachnoid, intraventricular) for the management of cancer pain.¹³⁻¹⁵

American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP) In 2013, the ASIPP issued updated evidence-based practice guidelines on interventional techniques in the management of chronic spinal pain. The review was based on 7 observational studies, which they concluded showed a long-term benefit from intrathecal infusion devices. As a result, the ASIPP guidelines recommended the use of intrathecal infusion systems for recalcitrant noncancer pain.¹⁶

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

- Cornea: The outermost layer of the eye; dome shaped and covers the front of the eye.
- Ectasia: A condition that occurs when the cornea is so thin that pressure within the eye leads to bulging of the cornea
- Keratoconus: Cone-shaped cornea with the apex of the cone being forward; also called conical cornea
- Keratometry (K): Measurement of the curvature of the cornea
- Manifest cylinder: A subjective measure of a change in the cylinder (astigmatism). For example, an increase of 1.00 D or more in manifest cylinder indicates that the glasses prescription astigmatism has changed by 1 or more.
- Manifest refraction spherical equivalent (MRSE): A subjective measure of a change in the cylinder (astigmatism). It is calculated arithmetically by adding the sphere power and half of the cylinder power. MRSE is used in the calculation of spherical equivalent.

CODING & BILLING INFORMATION

Covered CPT Codes

CPT	Description
62350	Implantation, revision or repositioning of tunneled intrathecal or epidural catheter, for long-term medication administration via an external pump or implantable reservoir/infusion pump; without laminectomy
62351	Implantation, revision or repositioning of tunneled intrathecal or epidural catheter, for long-term medication administration via an external pump or implantable reservoir/infusion pump; with laminectomy
62360	Implantation or replacement of device for intrathecal or epidural drug infusion; subcutaneous reservoir
62361	Implantation or replacement of device for intrathecal or epidural drug infusion; non-programmable pump
62362	Implantation or replacement of device for intrathecal or epidural drug infusion; programmable pump, including preparation of pump, with or without programming

Covered HCPCS Codes

HCPCS	Description
E0782	Infusion pump, implantable, non-programmable (includes all components, e.g., pump, catheter, connectors, etc.)
E0783	Infusion pump, implantable, programmable (includes all components, e.g., pump, catheter, connectors, etc.)
E0785	Implantable intraspinal (epidural/intrathecal) catheter used with implantable infusion pump, replacement
E0786	Implantable programmable infusion pump, replacement (excludes implantable intraspinal catheter)

CODING DISCLAIMER. Codes listed in this policy are for reference purposes only and may not be all-inclusive. Deleted codes and codes which are not effective at the time the service is rendered may not be eligible for reimbursement. Listing of a service or device code in this policy does not guarantee coverage. Coverage is determined by the benefit document. Molina adheres to Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®), a registered trademark of the American Medical Association (AMA). All CPT codes and descriptions are copyrighted by the AMA; this information is included for informational purposes only. Providers and facilities are expected to utilize industry standard coding practices for all submissions. When improper

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billing and coding is not followed, Molina has the right to reject/deny the claim and recover claim payment(s). Due to changing industry practices, Molina reserves the right to revise this policy as needed.

APPROVAL HISTORY

8/11/2021	Policy reviewed. No changes to coverage criteria. Updated references with 2021 literature search.
6/17/2020	Policy reviewed. No changes to coverage criteria. Updated references
6/19/2019	Policy reviewed. No changes to coverage criteria. Updated references
7/10/2018	Policy reviewed. No changes to coverage criteria. Updated references.
6/14/2017	Policy reviewed. No changes to coverage criteria. Updated references.
3/6/2017	Policy reviewed. No changes to coverage criteria. Guidelines and References sections updated.
6/15/2016	Policy reviewed. No changes.
12/16/2015	Policy reviewed. No changes.
4/2/2014	New policy.

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APPENDIX

Reserved for State specific information (to be provided by the individual States, not Corporate). Information includes, but is not limited to, State contract language, Medicaid criteria and other mandated criteria.

Washington

Not covered for Medicaid for the treatment of non-malignant pain.