

Subject: Implantable Neurostimulator for Sacral Neuromodulation in Treatment of Urinary and Fecal Incontinence		Original Effective Date: 8/4/14
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DISCLAIMER

This Molina Clinical Policy (MCP) is intended to facilitate the Utilization Management process. 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 (i.e., 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 Molina Clinical Policy (MCP) document and provide the directive for all Medicare members.

SUMMARY

Sacral nerve stimulation (SNS), using the Medtronic InterStim Therapy System, is the application of a mild electrical pulse to the sacral nerves through a surgically implanted neuromodulation system to treat urinary or fecal incontinence. The electrical pulses modulate the sacral nerves that influence the functioning of the bladder, bowel, urinary, and anal sphincters, and the pelvic floor muscles. Stimulation of the sacral nerves (S2-S4) generally causes a lifting and tightening of the anus, and contraction of the external sphincter. Implantation of the InterStim neurostimulator is a two-phase process. The first phase consists of a trial period to determine if a patient is likely to achieve optimal benefit from long-term implantation. If the patient experiences a decline in urinary or bowel accidents by at least half the number of incontinence episodes in a typical week, the patient may benefit from the InterStim Therapy System. The second phase involves the permanent implantation of the neurostimulator, which requires a surgical procedure under general or local anesthesia, typically performed on an outpatient basis. The sacral nerve neurostimulator (InterStim device) is inserted under the skin through a small incision in the upper buttock, and placed in a subcutaneous pocket. The long-term lead is implanted in the tailbone and modulates a sacral nerve adjacent to the lead. Sacral nerve stimulation is intended as second-line therapy in adults with chronic urinary or fecal incontinence who have not responded favorably to medical therapy, who are not appropriate candidates for conservative treatments, or who are considering a more invasive surgical option. ⁴⁵⁻⁴⁷

The InterStim System for Urinary Control (Medtronic Inc.) is approved by the FDA for the treatment of nonobstructive urinary retention, urinary urge incontinence, and symptoms of urgency-frequency syndrome in patients who have failed or could not tolerate more conservative treatments. The InterStim System also received a premarket application (PMA) approval for the treatment of chronic fecal incontinence in patients who have failed or could not tolerate conservative, noninvasive therapies. ²⁻³

Recommendation ^{1-5 6-38 39-43}

- ❑ SNS with the implantable neurostimulator for the treatment of fecal incontinence may be considered medically necessary when all of the following criteria are met: [ALL]
 - Chronic fecal incontinence with greater than two incontinent episodes on average per week and duration of incontinence greater than six months or for more than twelve months after vaginal childbirth; AND
 - Documented failure or intolerance to conventional therapy (e.g., dietary modification, the addition of bulking and pharmacologic treatment); AND
 - Documented successful percutaneous test stimulation, defined as at least 50% sustained (more than one week) improvement in symptoms measured through incontinence diaries; AND
 - Condition is not related to anorectal malformation (e.g., congenital anorectal malformation; defects of the external anal sphincter over 60 degrees; visible sequelae of pelvic radiation; active anal abscesses and fistulae) and/or chronic inflammatory bowel disease; AND
 - Incontinence is not related to another neurologic condition such as peripheral neuropathy or complete spinal cord injury.

- ❑ SNS with the implantable neurostimulator for the treatment of urinary incontinence may be considered medically necessary when ALL of the following criteria are met: [ALL]
 - ONE of the following chronic clinical conditions with duration of incontinence greater than six months: [ONE]
 - urinary urge incontinence, or
 - nonobstructive urinary retention, or
 - urgency-frequency syndrome; AND
 - Documented successful percutaneous test stimulation, defined as at least 50% sustained (more than one week) improvement in symptoms measured through incontinence diaries; AND
 - Documented failure or intolerance to conventional therapy (e.g., dietary modification, voiding re-training, and/or pelvic floor physiotherapy exercises, pharmacotherapy)

COVERAGE EXCLUSIONS ⁴⁸

- ❑ All of the following clinical conditions are considered not medically necessary, investigational, experimental and unproven: [ALL]
 - as a first-line therapy
 - chronic constipation
 - neurogenic voiding dysfunction and urinary retention
 - other conditions that include: diabetes, interstitial cystitis, chronic pelvic pain, stress incontinence, overactive bladder, and mixed urinary incontinence

- pediatric use in children

- ❑ Contraindications to SNS for urinary incontinence include: mechanical obstruction such as benign prostatic hypertrophy, cancer, or urethral stricture, and/or concurrent use of any form of diathermy.⁴⁸

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL EVIDENCE⁶⁻³⁸

Urinary Incontinence

There is a large body of evidence from both randomized controlled trials (RCTs), prospective and retrospective studies, systematic reviews and large case studies that indicate sacral nerve stimulation (SNS) by an implantable system is safe and effective for the treatment of urinary urge incontinence, nonobstructive urinary retention, and urgency-frequency syndrome in selected individuals who are refractory to standard therapies and who experience a > 50% symptom relief during a trial of percutaneous test SNS. Most of the studies had small to moderate sample sizes, ranging from 51 to 581 patients. Outcome measures varied, but the primary outcome measures usually included incontinence symptom relief measured by patients and recorded in daily voiding diaries. Long-term outcomes from RCTs of SNS are lacking; however, evidence from prospective and retrospective long-term follow-up studies of the available RCT's show sustained control of intractable urinary symptoms for up to 2 years and, in a small patient group, for up to 11 years. The results of the uncontrolled studies were generally positive; several prospective studies reported > 60% clinical efficacy of SNS for patients with chronic urinary voiding symptoms at ≥ 5 years follow-up. Although the results of a few studies indicate that SNS may be effective for some patients with neurogenic urinary retention and mixed urinary incontinence, there is insufficient data for these conditions.²¹⁻³⁸

Fecal Incontinence

There is some evidence from published studies that sacral nerve stimulation using the InterStim Therapy System improves the symptoms of chronic fecal incontinence in adults by reducing the number of fecal incontinence episodes per week and improving some measures of quality of life. The studies include two randomized crossover studies (total n=54), a randomized controlled study (n=120), and six prospective, before-and-after studies (total n=498) and one meta-analysis (n=944). Two studies had overlapping patient populations and the one reported subsequent long-term follow-up data. The majority of patients were refractory to primary conservative treatment before undergoing permanent implantation of the InterStim device and conducted an initial peripheral nerve evaluation to test efficacy prior to permanent device implantation. Outcome measures were generally related to severity of bowel incontinence following device implantation, and included functional outcomes. A few studies also reported if the ability to completely empty the bowel improved following device implantation. Follow-up periods ranged from 12 to 75 months. The best evidence consisted of two randomized crossover studies in which patients served as their own controls, and one randomized controlled study, which compared InterStim therapy with optimal medical treatment. Two of three randomized studies did not specifically report significant differences in therapeutic effects between treatment and controls. However, the majority of patients experienced improvements in symptoms relative to baseline assessments, including a significant reduction in number of incontinence episodes and significant improvements in physical, social, and emotional functioning. The meta-analysis follow-up ranged from 2 to 35 weeks and the majority of studies reported a decrease in the number of incontinent episodes per week after the procedure.⁶⁻²⁰

CODING INFORMATION: THE CODES LISTED IN THIS POLICY ARE FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY. LISTING OF A SERVICE OR DEVICE CODE IN THIS POLICY DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE SERVICE DESCRIBED BY THIS CODE IS A COVERED OR NON-COVERED. COVERAGE IS DETERMINED BY THE BENEFIT DOCUMENT. THIS LIST OF CODES MAY NOT BE ALL INCLUSIVE.

CPT	Description
64561	Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrodes; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement) including image guidance, if performed
64581	Incision for implantation of neurostimulator electrodes; sacral nerve (transforaminal placement)
64590	Insertion or replacement of peripheral or gastric neurostimulator pulse generator or receiver, direct or inductive coupling

HCPCS	Description
L8679	Implantable neurostimulator, pulse generator, any type [when specified as sacral nerve stimulator]
L8680	Implantable neurostimulator electrode, each
L8686	Implantable neurostimulator pulse generator, single array, non-rechargeable, includes extension
ICD-10	Procedure Codes
01HY0MZ	Insertion of neurostimulator lead into peripheral nerve, open approach
01HY3MZ	Insertion of neurostimulator lead into peripheral nerve, percutaneous approach
01HY4MZ	Insertion of neurostimulator lead into peripheral nerve, percutaneous endoscopic approach

RESOURCE REFERENCES

Government Agency:

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