

Surgery/Musculoskeletal System

CPT® Assistant.

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Surgery: Musculoskeletal System, TOPAZ device (Q&A)

Question: What is the appropriate code to report when the TOPAZ device is used to perform a procedure?

Answer: The TOPAZ MicroDebrider is a tool which utilizes Coblation® technology to perform a small incision in the fascia and is considered an alternative to the use of standard surgical instruments such as scalpels, low frequency electrocautery, and so forth. This technology enables the microdebridement of soft tissue present within the tendons of the knee, shoulder, elbow, ankle and foot. Because the TOPAZ MicroDebrider is a tool and not a procedure, code selection will depend on the service performed, and the specific anatomy involved, as it can be used on different parts of the body. The appropriate code should be selected based on the definitive procedure being performed as described in the code descriptor. 
