

## Reporting Selective Enzymatic Debridement (0973T-0976T)

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For the CPT 2026 code set, four new Category III codes (0973T-0976T) for reporting selective enzymatic debridement of burn wounds were established and took effect on July 1, 2025. Selective debridement targets only dead tissue (ie, eschar) and preserves viable surrounding tissue, while nonselective debridement typically removes both dead and healthy tissue; this slows healing and potentially causes further injury. Selective enzymatic debridement involves the use of a selective enzyme agent (ie, anacaulase-bcdb) and requires either general anesthesia or moderate sedation (reported separately). The treatment regimen involves initial wound cleansing, preparation, and topical application of the selective enzyme agent, followed by repeated dressing soaks, mechanical debridement, and patient monitoring throughout the procedure. Before the establishment of the new codes, these procedures were often reported with an unlisted code (eg, 17999). This article provides an overview of the intent and appropriate reporting of these new codes.

### ✖ Selective Enzymatic Debridement ✖

✖ Codes 0973T, 0974T, 0975T, 0976T describe selective enzymatic debridement of partial-thickness and/or full-thickness burn eschar. For nonselective enzymatic debridement, use 97602. Codes 0973T, 0974T, 0975T, 0976T require general anesthesia or moderate sedation that is separately reported and includes initial wound cleansing, preparation, and topical application of a selective enzyme agent (ie, anacaulase-bcdb), repeated dressing soaks, mechanical debridement, and patient monitoring. ✖

✖ **0973T** Selective enzymatic debridement, partial-thickness and/or full-thickness burn eschar, requiring anesthesia (ie, general anesthesia,

moderate sedation), including patient monitoring, trunk, arms, legs; first 100 sq cm

**0974T** each additional 100 sq cm (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

(Use 0974T in conjunction with 0973T)

(Do not report 0973T, 0974T in conjunction with 11042, 11043, 11044, 11045, 11046, 11047, 97597, 97598, for selective enzymatic debridement of the same wound during the same session)

(For nonselective enzymatic debridement, use 97602)

**0975T** Selective enzymatic debridement, partial-thickness and/or full-thickness burn eschar, requiring anesthesia (ie, general anesthesia, moderate sedation), including patient monitoring, scalp, neck, hands, feet, and/or multiple digits; first 100 sq cm

**0976T** each additional 100 sq cm (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

(Use 0976T in conjunction with 0975T)

(Do not report 0975T, 0976T in conjunction with 11042, 11043, 11044, 11045, 11046, 11047, 97597, 97598, for selective enzymatic debridement of the same wound during the same session)

For nonselective enzymatic debridement, use 97602



The appropriate reporting of codes 0973T-0976T depends on the anatomical location of the burns and the area (size) of the treated wound, which are outlined in their code descriptors. Report code 0973T for selective enzymatic treatment of burn eschar on the trunk, arms, and legs up to the first 100 sq cm, and add-on code 0974T for each additional 100 sq cm. Report code 0975T for selective enzymatic treatment of burn eschar of the scalp, neck, hands, feet, and/or multiple digits up to the first 100 sq cm, and add-on code 0976T for each additional 100 sq cm.

Note that codes 0973T-0976T may not be reported with other debridement codes (11042-11047) or with active wound treatment codes (97597, 97598) for the same wound during the same session. An instructional parenthetical note directs users to report code 97602 for nonselective enzymatic debridement. Note that selective enzymatic debridement services are typically performed in a facility, such as a burn unit or intensive care unit, because the patients require anesthesia or sedation and monitoring by clinical staff throughout the procedure. In contrast, nonselective debridement procedures (97602) are typically performed in an outpatient setting and do not require anesthesia.

The following clinical examples and procedural descriptions reflect typical clinical scenarios for which these new codes would be appropriately reported.

### **Clinical Example (0973T)**

A 67-year-old male sustained full thickness thermal burns on his chest and arm measuring 2,000 sq cm. Monitored, selective enzymatic eschar removal with anacaulase-bcdb is performed on the first 100 sq cm of the wound bed.

### **Description of Procedure (0973T)**

After induction of anesthetic interventions commensurate to the degree of the procedure, clean the burn wounds measuring 100 sq cm, remove the blisters, and cover the burned areas with gauze soaked with normal saline or antimicrobial solutions (eg, hypochlorous acid solution) for 2 hours. Calculate and prepare the required amount of enzymatic agent by mixing appropriate amounts of each of the anacaulase-bcdb powder and the gel vehicle. Apply a barrier of petrolatum gel adjacent to the burn edges. Prepare and then apply the enzymatic agent to the burn wounds and cover with a primary occlusive dressing with secondary layers to contain the enzymatic agent for 4 hours.



Monitor the patient during this time. After 4 hours, remove the dressings and atraumatically remove the enzymatic agent together with dissolved eschar with gauze pads or wooden tongue depressors. Soak the wounds in an isotonic salt or antibacterial solution for an additional 2 hours, and then clean the wounds.

### **Clinical Example (0974T)**

A 67-year-old male sustained full-thickness thermal burns on his chest and arm measuring 2,000 sq cm. At the time of a monitored, selective enzymatic eschar removal of the first 100 sq cm, monitored elective enzymatic eschar removal with anacaulase-bcdb is performed on an additional 1,900 sq cm of the wound bed. **[Note:** This is an add-on code. Only consider the additional work related to monitored, selective enzymatic eschar removal, base code.]

### **Description of Procedure (0974T)**

Following the initial selective enzymatic burn eschar removal of 100 sq cm (separately reported with primary code 0973T), clean the burn wounds measuring 1,900 sq cm, remove the blisters, and cover the burned areas with gauze soaked with normal saline or antimicrobial solutions (eg, hypochlorous acid solution) for 2 hours. Calculate and prepare the required amount of enzymatic agent by mixing appropriate amounts of each of the anacaulase-bcdb powder and the gel vehicle. Apply a barrier of petrolatum gel adjacent to the burn edges. Prepare and then apply the enzymatic agent to the burn wounds and cover with a primary occlusive dressing with secondary layers to contain the enzymatic agent for 4 hours.

Monitor the patient during this time. After 4 hours, remove the dressings and atraumatically remove the enzymatic agent together with dissolved eschar with gauze pads or wooden tongue depressors. Soak the wounds in an isotonic salt or antibacterial solution for an additional 2 hours, and then clean the wounds.

### **Clinical Example (0975T)**

A 65-year-old female sustained partial-thickness thermal burns on her hands measuring 300 sq cm. Monitored, selective enzymatic eschar removal with anacaulase-bcdb is performed on the first 100 sq cm of the wound bed.

### **Description of Procedure (0975T)**

After induction of anesthetic interventions commensurate to the degree of the procedure, clean the burn wounds measuring 100 sq cm, remove the blisters, and cover the burned areas with gauze soaked with normal saline or antimicrobial solutions (eg, hypochlorous acid solution) for 2 hours. Calculate and prepare the required amount of enzymatic agent by mixing appropriate amounts of each of the anacaulase-bcdb powder and the gel vehicle. Apply a barrier of petrolatum gel adjacent to the burn edges. Prepare and then apply the enzymatic agent to the burn wounds, and cover them with a primary occlusive dressing with secondary layers to contain the enzymatic agent for 4 hours.

Monitor the patient during this time. After 4 hours, remove the dressings and atraumatically remove the enzymatic agent together with dissolved eschar with gauze pads or wooden tongue depressors. Soak the wounds in an isotonic salt or antibacterial solution for an additional 2 hours, and then clean the wounds.

### **Clinical Example (0976T)**

A 65-year-old female sustained partial-thickness thermal burns on her hands measuring 300 sq cm. At the time of a monitored, selective enzymatic eschar removal of the first 100 sq cm, monitored, selective enzymatic eschar removal with anacaulase-bcdb is performed on an additional 200 sq cm of the wound bed. [**Note:** This is an add-on code. Only consider the additional work related to monitored, selective enzymatic eschar removal, base code.]

### **Description of Procedure (0976T)**

Following the initial selective enzymatic burn eschar removal of 100 sq cm (separately reported with primary code 0975T), clean the burn wounds



measuring 200 sq cm, remove the blisters, and cover the burned areas with gauze soaked with normal saline or antimicrobial solutions (eg, hypochlorous acid solution) for 2 hours. Calculate and prepare the required amount of enzymatic agent by mixing appropriate amounts of each of the anacaulase-bcdd powder and the gel vehicle. Apply a barrier of petrolatum gel adjacent to the burn edges. Prepare and then apply the enzymatic agent to the burn wounds, and cover them with a primary occlusive dressing with secondary layers to contain the enzymatic agent for 4 hours.

Monitor the patient during this time. After 4 hours, remove the dressings and atraumatically remove the enzymatic agent together with dissolved eschar gauze pads or wooden tongue depressors. Soak the wounds in an isotonic salt or antibacterial solution for an additional 2 hours, and then clean the wounds.