

Pain Management Coding Alert

Clip and Save: Look to these Codes on Paravertebral Facet Joint Injections

Remember, not all payers have identical approved diagnoses.

When a patient reports to the PM specialist for a paravertebral facet joint injection in the cervical/thoracic or lumbar/sacral areas, you'll report the service with one or more of the following codes, depending on encounter specifics:

- 64490 Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with image guidance (fluoroscopy or CT), cervical or thoracic; single level)
- +64491 ... second level (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
- + 64492 ... third and any additional level(s) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
- 64493 Injection(s), diagnostic or therapeutic agent, paravertebral facet (zygapophyseal) joint (or nerves innervating that joint) with image guidance (fluoroscopy or CT), lumbar or sacral; single level
- +64494 ... second level (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
- + 64495 ... third and any additional level(s) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).

While there is no single source of approved diagnosis codes for these injections, there are a few that are commonly attached to one or more of the above codes. Those ICD-10 codes include:

- M25.511 Pain in right shoulder
- M25.512 Pain in left shoulder
- M25.521 Pain in right elbow
- M25.522 Pain in left elbow
- M25.531 Pain in right wrist
- M25.532 Pain in left wrist
- M25.551 Pain in right hip
- M25.552 Pain in left hip
- M25.571 Pain in right ankle and joints of right foot
- M25.572 Pain in left ankle and joints of left foot
- M47.14 Other spondylosis with myelopathy, thoracic region
- M47.812 Spondylosis without myelopathy or radiculopathy, cervical region
- M47.817 Spondylosis without myelopathy or radiculopathy, lumbosacral region
- M47.892 Other spondylosis, cervical region
- M47.897 Other spondylosis, lumbosacral region
- M47.9 Spondylosis, unspecified
- M54.2 Cervicalgia
- M54.5 Low back pain
- M96.1 Postlaminectomy syndrome, not elsewhere classified.

Remember: This is not a complete, or approved, list of ICD-10 codes that prove medical necessity for paravertebral facet joint injections. It is merely a guide to give you an idea of the types of diagnoses you might see with 64490 through +64495.

For a list of approved diagnosis codes for the 64490 through +64495 codes, consult with each payer individually.