

Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy (NCD 100.13)

Policy Number	100.13	Approved By	UnitedHealthcare Medicare Reimbursement Policy Committee	Current Approval Date	04/23/2014
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IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THIS REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

This policy is applicable to UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Plans offered by UnitedHealthcare and its affiliates.

You are responsible for submission of accurate claims. This reimbursement policy is intended to ensure that you are reimbursed based on the code or codes that correctly describe the health care services provided. UnitedHealthcare reimbursement policies use Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®*), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), or other coding guidelines. References to CPT or other sources are for definitional purposes only and do not imply any right to reimbursement.

This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on CMS 1500 forms and, when specified, to those billed on UB04 forms (CMS 1450). Coding methodology, industry-standard reimbursement logic, regulatory requirements, benefits design and other factors are considered in developing reimbursement policy. This information is intended to serve only as a general resource regarding UnitedHealthcare's reimbursement policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, UnitedHealthcare may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to health care services provided in a particular case. Further, the policy does not address all issues related to reimbursement for health care services provided to UnitedHealthcare enrollees. Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors may include, but are not limited to: legislative mandates, the physician or other provider contracts, and/or the enrollee's benefit coverage documents. Finally, this policy may not be implemented exactly the same way on the different electronic claims processing systems used by UnitedHealthcare due to programming or other constraints; however, UnitedHealthcare strives to minimize these variations.

UnitedHealthcare may modify this reimbursement policy at any time by publishing a new version of the policy on this Website. However, the information presented in this policy is accurate and current as of the date of publication.

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Application

This reimbursement policy applies to services reported using the Health Insurance Claim Form CMS-1500 or its electronic equivalent or its successor form, and services reported using facility claim form CMS-1450 or its electronic equivalent or its successor form. This policy applies to all products, all network and non-network physicians, and other health care professionals.

The HCPCS/CPT code(s) may be subject to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits. This policy does not take precedence over CCI edits. Please refer to the CCI for correct coding guidelines and specific applicable code combinations prior to billing UnitedHealthcare. It is not enough to link the procedure code to a correct, payable ICD-9-CM diagnosis code. The diagnosis must be present for the procedure to be paid. Compliance with the provisions in this policy is subject to monitoring by pre-payment review and/or post-payment data analysis and subsequent medical review. The effective date of changes/additions/deletions to this policy is the committee

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Summary

Overview

Laparoscopic cholecystectomy is a covered surgical procedure in which a diseased gall bladder is removed through the use of instruments introduced via cannulae, with vision of the operative field maintained by use of a high-resolution television camera-monitor system (video laparoscope).

Reimbursement Guidelines

For inpatient claims, report the diagnosis code for laparoscopic cholecystectomy. For all other claims, report the appropriate CPT code for laparoscopy, surgical; cholecystectomy (any method), and the appropriate CPT code for laparoscopy, surgical: cholecystectomy with cholangiography.

CPT/HCPCS Codes

Code	Description
47562	Laparoscopy, surgical; cholecystectomy
47563	Laparoscopy, surgical; cholecystectomy with cholangiography
47564	Laparoscopy, surgical; cholecystectomy with exploration of common duct

ICP/PCS Codes

ICP Code	Description	PCS Code	Description
51.23	Laparoscopic cholecystectomy	OFT44ZZ	Resection of Gallbladder, Percutaneous Endoscopic Approach
51.24	Laparoscopic partial cholecystectomy	OF544ZZ	Destruction of Gallbladder, Percutaneous Endoscopic Approach
		OFB44ZZ	Excision of Gallbladder, Percutaneous Endoscopic Approach

References Included (but not limited to):

CMS NCD

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UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Coverage Summaries

Gastroesophageal and Gastrointestinal (GI) Services and Procedures

History

Date	Revisions
04/23/2014	Administrative updates
04/24/2013	Administrative updates
05/23/2012	Administrative updates