

Medical Policy



Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulators (TENS)

▼Description

A transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulator (TENS) unit is a device which utilizes electrical current delivered through electrodes placed on the surface of the skin to decrease the member's perception of pain by inhibiting the transmission of afferent pain nerve impulses and/or stimulating the release of endorphins. A TENS unit must be distinguished from other electrical stimulators (e.g., neuromuscular stimulators) which are used to directly stimulate muscles and/or motor nerves.

▼Policy

A TENS is covered for the treatment of members with chronic, intractable pain or acute post-operative pain when one of the following coverage criteria, I-III, are met.

I. Acute Post-operative Pain

TENS is covered for acute post-operative pain. Coverage is limited to 30 days (one month's rental) from the day of surgery. Payment will be made only as a rental.

A TENS unit will be denied as not reasonable and necessary for acute pain (less than three months duration) other than for post-operative pain.

II. Chronic Pain Other than Low Back Pain

TENS is covered for chronic, intractable pain other than chronic low back pain when all of the following criteria must be met:

- The presumed etiology of the pain must be a type that is accepted as responding to TENS therapy. Examples of conditions for which TENS therapy is not considered to be reasonable and necessary are (not all-inclusive):
 - headache
 - visceral abdominal pain
 - pelvic pain
 - temporomandibular joint (TMJ) pain

- The pain must have been present for at least three months
- Other appropriate treatment modalities must have been tried and failed

TENS therapy for chronic pain that does not meet these criteria will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

III. Chronic Low Back Pain (CLBP)

TENS therapy for CLBP is only covered when all of the following criteria are met:

- The member has one of the diagnosis codes listed in the Diagnosis Codes that Support Medical Necessity section below.
- The member is enrolled in an approved clinical study that meets all of the requirements set out in NCD §160.27 (CMS Internet Only Manual 100-03, Chapter 1). Refer to the APPENDICES section for additional information about approved clinical studies.

For NH Well Sense Members Only: TENS therapy for CLBP does **NOT** require enrollment in an approved clinical study but the member must meet the general coverage criteria.

TENS therapy for CLBP that does not meet these criteria will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

General Requirements for chronic pain (II) and CLBP (III)

When used for the treatment of chronic, intractable pain described in section II, the TENS unit must be used by the member on a trial basis for a minimum of one month (30 days), but not to exceed two months. The trial period will be paid as a rental. The trial period must be monitored by the physician to determine the effectiveness of the TENS unit in modulating the pain. For coverage of a purchase, the physician must determine that the member is likely to derive significant therapeutic benefit from continuous use of the unit over a long period of time.

A 4-lead TENS unit may be used with either 2 leads or 4 leads, depending on the characteristics of the member's pain. If it is ordered for use with 4 leads, the medical record must document why 2 leads are insufficient to meet the member's needs.

TENS used for CLBP as described in section III does not require a trial rental period or an assessment of effectiveness by the treating physician. Upon the member's enrollment into an approved study, the TENS is eligible for purchase.

Supplies

Separate allowance will be made for replacement supplies when they are reasonable and necessary and are used with a covered TENS. Usual maximum utilization is:

- 2 TENS leads - a maximum of one unit of A4595 per month
- 4 TENS leads - a maximum of two units of A4595 per month.

If the use of the TENS unit is less than daily, the frequency of billing for the TENS supply code should be reduced proportionally.

Replacement of lead wires (A4557) more often than every 12 months would rarely be reasonable and necessary.

A conductive garment (E0731) used with a TENS unit is rarely reasonable and necessary, but is covered only if all of the following conditions are met:

- It has been prescribed by the treating physician for use in delivering covered TENS treatment
- One of the medical indications outlined below is met:
 - The member cannot manage without the conductive garment because
 - There is such a large area or so many sites to be stimulated and
 - The stimulation would have to be delivered so frequently that it is not feasible to use conventional electrodes, adhesive tapes, and lead wires
 - The member cannot manage without the conductive garment for the treatment of chronic intractable pain because the areas or sites to be stimulated are inaccessible with the use of conventional electrodes, adhesive tapes, and lead wires
 - The member has a documented medical condition, such as skin problems, that preclude the application of conventional electrodes, adhesive tapes, and lead wires
 - The member requires electrical stimulation beneath a cast to treat chronic intractable pain.

A conductive garment is not covered for use with a TENS device during the trial period unless:

- The member has a documented skin problem prior to the start of the trial period; and
- The TENS is reasonable and necessary for the member.

If the criteria above are not met for E0731, it will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Reimbursement for supplies is contingent upon use with a covered TENS unit. Claims for TENS supplies provided when there is no covered TENS unit will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

Effective for claims with dates of service on or after June 8, 2012 supplies provided for use with a previously covered TENS unit used for CLBP (not as part of an approved study) are not eligible for reimbursement. These supply claims will be denied as not reasonable and necessary.

CPT/HCPCS Codes

Group 1 Paragraph:

The appearance of a code in this section does not necessarily indicate coverage.

HCPCS MODIFIERS:

EY - No physician or other health care provider order for this item or service
GA – Waiver of liability statement issued as required by payer policy, individual case
GZ – Item or service expected to be denied as not reasonable and necessary
KX - Requirements specified in the medical policy have been met
Q0 (zero) - Investigational clinical service provided in a clinical research study that is in an approved clinical research study

HCPCS CODES:

Group 1 Codes:

Code	Description
E0720	TRANSCUTANEOUS ELECTRICAL NERVE STIMULATION (TENS) DEVICE, TWO LEAD, LOCALIZED STIMULATION
E0730	TRANSCUTANEOUS ELECTRICAL NERVE STIMULATION (TENS) DEVICE, FOUR OR MORE LEADS, FOR MULTIPLE NERVE STIMULATION

E0731	FORM FITTING CONDUCTIVE GARMENT FOR DELIVERY OF TENS OR NMES (WITH CONDUCTIVE FIBERS SEPARATED FROM THE PATIENT'S SKIN BY LAYERS OF FABRIC)
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Group 2 Paragraph: SUPPLIES

Group 2 Codes:

Code	Description
A4557	LEAD WIRES, (E.G., APNEA MONITOR), PER PAIR
A4595	ELECTRICAL STIMULATOR SUPPLIES, 2 LEAD, PER MONTH, (E.G. TENS, NMES)

ICD-10 Codes that Support Medical Necessity

Group 1 Paragraph: For TENS (E0720, E0730) used for CLBP when the approved clinical study (criterion III) requirements are met.

Group 1 Codes:

ICD-10 Code	Description
M40.36	Flatback syndrome, lumbar region
M40.37	Flatback syndrome, lumbosacral region
M40.46	Postural lordosis, lumbar region
M40.47	Postural lordosis, lumbosacral region
M40.56	Lordosis, unspecified, lumbar region
M40.57	Lordosis, unspecified, lumbosacral region
M41.26	Other idiopathic scoliosis, lumbar region
M41.27	Other idiopathic scoliosis, lumbosacral region
M41.56	Other secondary scoliosis, lumbar region
M41.57	Other secondary scoliosis, lumbosacral region
M42.16	Adult osteochondrosis of spine, lumbar region
M42.17	Adult osteochondrosis of spine, lumbosacral region
M43.06	Spondylolysis, lumbar region
M43.07	Spondylolysis, lumbosacral region
M43.16	Spondylolisthesis, lumbar region
M43.17	Spondylolisthesis, lumbosacral region

M43.26	Fusion of spine, lumbar region
M43.27	Fusion of spine, lumbosacral region
M43.5X6	Other recurrent vertebral dislocation, lumbar region
M43.5X7	Other recurrent vertebral dislocation, lumbosacral region
M43.8X6	Other specified deforming dorsopathies, lumbar region
M43.8X7	Other specified deforming dorsopathies, lumbosacral region
M47.16	Other spondylosis with myelopathy, lumbar region
M47.26	Other spondylosis with radiculopathy, lumbar region
M47.27	Other spondylosis with radiculopathy, lumbosacral region
M47.816	Spondylosis without myelopathy or radiculopathy, lumbar region
M47.817	Spondylosis without myelopathy or radiculopathy, lumbosacral region
M47.896	Other spondylosis, lumbar region
M47.897	Other spondylosis, lumbosacral region
M48.06	Spinal stenosis, lumbar region
M48.061	Spinal stenosis, lumbar region without neurogenic claudication
M48.062	Spinal stenosis, lumbar region with neurogenic claudication
M48.07	Spinal stenosis, lumbosacral region
M48.16	Ankylosing hyperostosis [Forestier], lumbar region
M48.17	Ankylosing hyperostosis [Forestier], lumbosacral region
M48.26	Kissing spine, lumbar region
M48.27	Kissing spine, lumbosacral region
M48.36	Traumatic spondylopathy, lumbar region
M48.37	Traumatic spondylopathy, lumbosacral region
M48.8X6	Other specified spondylopathies, lumbar region
M48.8X7	Other specified spondylopathies, lumbosacral region
M51.06	Intervertebral disc disorders with myelopathy, lumbar region
M51.16	Intervertebral disc disorders with radiculopathy, lumbar region
M51.17	Intervertebral disc disorders with radiculopathy, lumbosacral region
M51.26	Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbar region
M51.27	Other intervertebral disc displacement, lumbosacral region
M51.36	Other intervertebral disc degeneration, lumbar region
M51.37	Other intervertebral disc degeneration, lumbosacral region
M51.46	Schmorl's nodes, lumbar region
M51.47	Schmorl's nodes, lumbosacral region
M51.86	Other intervertebral disc disorders, lumbar region
M51.87	Other intervertebral disc disorders, lumbosacral region
M53.2X6	Spinal instabilities, lumbar region

M53.2X7	Spinal instabilities, lumbosacral region
M53.86	Other specified dorsopathies, lumbar region
M53.87	Other specified dorsopathies, lumbosacral region
M54.16	Radiculopathy, lumbar region
M54.17	Radiculopathy, lumbosacral region
M54.30	Sciatica, unspecified side
M54.31	Sciatica, right side
M54.32	Sciatica, left side
M54.40	Lumbago with sciatica, unspecified side
M54.41	Lumbago with sciatica, right side
M54.42	Lumbago with sciatica, left side
M54.5	Low back pain
S32.000A	Wedge compression fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.000B	Wedge compression fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.000D	Wedge compression fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.000G	Wedge compression fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.000K	Wedge compression fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.000S	Wedge compression fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.001A	Stable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.001B	Stable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.001D	Stable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.001G	Stable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.001K	Stable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.001S	Stable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.002A	Unstable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.002B	Unstable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.002D	Unstable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing

S32.002G	Unstable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.002K	Unstable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.002S	Unstable burst fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.008A	Other fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.008B	Other fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.008D	Other fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.008G	Other fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.008K	Other fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.008S	Other fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.009A	Unspecified fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.009B	Unspecified fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.009D	Unspecified fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.009G	Unspecified fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.009K	Unspecified fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.009S	Unspecified fracture of unspecified lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.010A	Wedge compression fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.010B	Wedge compression fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.010D	Wedge compression fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.010G	Wedge compression fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.010K	Wedge compression fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.010S	Wedge compression fracture of first lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.011A	Stable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.011B	Stable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for

	open fracture
S32.011D	Stable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.011G	Stable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.011K	Stable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.011S	Stable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.012A	Unstable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.012B	Unstable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.012D	Unstable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.012G	Unstable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.012K	Unstable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.012S	Unstable burst fracture of first lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.018A	Other fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.018B	Other fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.018D	Other fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.018G	Other fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.018K	Other fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.018S	Other fracture of first lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.019A	Unspecified fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.019B	Unspecified fracture of first lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.019D	Unspecified fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.019G	Unspecified fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.019K	Unspecified fracture of first lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.019S	Unspecified fracture of first lumbar vertebra, sequela

S32.020A	Wedge compression fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.020B	Wedge compression fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.020D	Wedge compression fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.020G	Wedge compression fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.020K	Wedge compression fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.020S	Wedge compression fracture of second lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.021A	Stable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.021B	Stable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.021D	Stable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.021G	Stable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.021K	Stable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.021S	Stable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.022A	Unstable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.022B	Unstable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.022D	Unstable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.022G	Unstable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.022K	Unstable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.022S	Unstable burst fracture of second lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.028A	Other fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.028B	Other fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.028D	Other fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.028G	Other fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing

S32.028K	Other fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.028S	Other fracture of second lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.029A	Unspecified fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.029B	Unspecified fracture of second lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.029D	Unspecified fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.029G	Unspecified fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.029K	Unspecified fracture of second lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.029S	Unspecified fracture of second lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.030A	Wedge compression fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.030B	Wedge compression fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.030D	Wedge compression fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.030G	Wedge compression fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.030K	Wedge compression fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.030S	Wedge compression fracture of third lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.031A	Stable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.031B	Stable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.031D	Stable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.031G	Stable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.031K	Stable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.031S	Stable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.032A	Unstable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.032B	Unstable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.032D	Unstable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent

	encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.032G	Unstable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.032K	Unstable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.032S	Unstable burst fracture of third lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.038A	Other fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.038B	Other fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.038D	Other fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.038G	Other fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.038K	Other fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.038S	Other fracture of third lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.039A	Unspecified fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.039B	Unspecified fracture of third lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.039D	Unspecified fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.039G	Unspecified fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.039K	Unspecified fracture of third lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.039S	Unspecified fracture of third lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.040A	Wedge compression fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.040B	Wedge compression fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.040D	Wedge compression fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.040G	Wedge compression fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.040K	Wedge compression fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.040S	Wedge compression fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.041A	Stable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture

S32.041B	Stable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.041D	Stable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.041G	Stable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.041K	Stable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.041S	Stable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.042A	Unstable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.042B	Unstable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.042D	Unstable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.042G	Unstable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.042K	Unstable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.042S	Unstable burst fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.048A	Other fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.048B	Other fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.048D	Other fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.048G	Other fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.048K	Other fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.048S	Other fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.049A	Unspecified fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.049B	Unspecified fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.049D	Unspecified fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.049G	Unspecified fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.049K	Unspecified fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion

S32.049S Unspecified fracture of fourth lumbar vertebra, sequela

S32.050A Wedge compression fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture

S32.050B Wedge compression fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture

S32.050D Wedge compression fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing

S32.050G Wedge compression fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing

S32.050K Wedge compression fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion

S32.050S Wedge compression fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, sequela

S32.051A Stable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture

S32.051B Stable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture

S32.051D Stable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing

S32.051G Stable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing

S32.051K Stable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion

S32.051S Stable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, sequela

S32.052A Unstable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture

S32.052B Unstable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture

S32.052D Unstable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing

S32.052G Unstable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing

S32.052K Unstable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion

S32.052S Unstable burst fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, sequela

S32.058A Other fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture

S32.058B Other fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture

S32.058D Other fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing

S32.058G Other fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for

	fracture with delayed healing
S32.058K	Other fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.058S	Other fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, sequela
S32.059A	Unspecified fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for closed fracture
S32.059B	Unspecified fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, initial encounter for open fracture
S32.059D	Unspecified fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with routine healing
S32.059G	Unspecified fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with delayed healing
S32.059K	Unspecified fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter for fracture with nonunion
S32.059S	Unspecified fracture of fifth lumbar vertebra, sequela
S33.0XXA	Traumatic rupture of lumbar intervertebral disc, initial encounter
S33.0XXD	Traumatic rupture of lumbar intervertebral disc, subsequent encounter
S33.0XXS	Traumatic rupture of lumbar intervertebral disc, sequela
S33.100A	Subluxation of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
S33.100D	Subluxation of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
S33.100S	Subluxation of unspecified lumbar vertebra, sequela
S33.101A	Dislocation of unspecified lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
S33.101D	Dislocation of unspecified lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
S33.101S	Dislocation of unspecified lumbar vertebra, sequela
S33.110A	Subluxation of L1/L2 lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
S33.110D	Subluxation of L1/L2 lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
S33.110S	Subluxation of L1/L2 lumbar vertebra, sequela
S33.111A	Dislocation of L1/L2 lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
S33.111D	Dislocation of L1/L2 lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
S33.111S	Dislocation of L1/L2 lumbar vertebra, sequela
S33.120A	Subluxation of L2/L3 lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
S33.120D	Subluxation of L2/L3 lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
S33.120S	Subluxation of L2/L3 lumbar vertebra, sequela
S33.121A	Dislocation of L2/L3 lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
S33.121D	Dislocation of L2/L3 lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
S33.121S	Dislocation of L2/L3 lumbar vertebra, sequela
S33.130A	Subluxation of L3/L4 lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
S33.130D	Subluxation of L3/L4 lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter

S33.130S Subluxation of L3/L4 lumbar vertebra, sequela
 S33.131A Dislocation of L3/L4 lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
 S33.131D Dislocation of L3/L4 lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
 S33.131S Dislocation of L3/L4 lumbar vertebra, sequela
 S33.140A Subluxation of L4/L5 lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
 S33.140D Subluxation of L4/L5 lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
 S33.140S Subluxation of L4/L5 lumbar vertebra, sequela
 S33.141A Dislocation of L4/L5 lumbar vertebra, initial encounter
 S33.141D Dislocation of L4/L5 lumbar vertebra, subsequent encounter
 S33.141S Dislocation of L4/L5 lumbar vertebra, sequela
 S33.5XXA Sprain of ligaments of lumbar spine, initial encounter
 S33.5XXD Sprain of ligaments of lumbar spine, subsequent encounter
 S33.5XXS Sprain of ligaments of lumbar spine, sequela
 S33.6XXA Sprain of sacroiliac joint, initial encounter
 S33.6XXD Sprain of sacroiliac joint, subsequent encounter
 S33.6XXS Sprain of sacroiliac joint, sequela
 S34.21XA Injury of nerve root of lumbar spine, initial encounter
 S34.21XD Injury of nerve root of lumbar spine, subsequent encounter
 S34.21XS Injury of nerve root of lumbar spine, sequela
 S34.22XA Injury of nerve root of sacral spine, initial encounter
 S34.22XD Injury of nerve root of sacral spine, subsequent encounter
 S34.22XS Injury of nerve root of sacral spine, sequela
 S39.002A Unspecified injury of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, initial encounter
 S39.002D Unspecified injury of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, subsequent encounter
 S39.002S Unspecified injury of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, sequela
 S39.012A Strain of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, initial encounter
 S39.012D Strain of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, subsequent encounter
 S39.012S Strain of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, sequela
 S39.022A Laceration of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, initial encounter
 S39.022D Laceration of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, subsequent encounter
 S39.022S Laceration of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, sequela
 S39.092A Other injury of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, initial encounter

S39.092D	Other injury of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, subsequent encounter
S39.092S	Other injury of muscle, fascia and tendon of lower back, sequela
Z00.6	Encounter for examination for normal comparison and control in clinical research program

Group 2 Paragraph: For other uses of TENS (acute post-operative pain (criterion I), chronic pain other than CLBP (criterion II)), there are no specified diagnosis codes.

Group 2 Codes: N/A

ICD-10 Codes that DO NOT Support Medical Necessity

Paragraph: For TENS used for CLBP as part of an approved study, all codes not specified above

▼ Documentation Requirements

Items in this policy may be subject to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) 6407 requirements.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) 6407 requires that the treating physician conduct a face-to-face examination during the six month period preceding the written order. The documentation must be received by the provider prior to delivery for certain DME items. The documentation must describe a medical condition for which the DME is being prescribed.

▼ Important Note:

Northwood's Medical Policies are developed to assist Northwood in administering plan benefits and determining whether a particular DMEPOS product or service is reasonable and necessary. Equipment that is used primarily and customarily for a non-medical purpose is not considered durable medical equipment.

Coverage determinations are made on a case-by-case basis and are subject to all of the terms, conditions, limitations, and exclusions of the member's contract including medical necessity requirements.

The conclusion that a DMEPOS product or service is reasonable and necessary does not constitute coverage. The member's contract defines which DMEPOS product or service is covered, excluded or limited. The policies provide for clearly written, reasonable and current criteria that have been approved by Northwood's Medical Director.

The clinical criteria and medical policies provide guidelines for determining the medical necessity for specific DMEPOS products or services. In all cases, final benefit determinations are based on the applicable contract language. To the extent there are any conflicts between medical policy guidelines and applicable contract language, the contract language prevails. Medical policy is not intended to override the policy that defines the member's benefits, nor is it intended to dictate to providers how to direct care. Northwood Medical policies shall not be interpreted to limit the benefits afforded to Medicare or Medicaid members by law and regulation and Northwood will use the applicable state requirements to determine required quantity limit guidelines.

Northwood's policies do not constitute medical advice. Northwood does not provide or recommend treatment to members. Members should consult with their treating physician in connection with diagnosis and treatment decisions.

▼ References

TENS – Cefaly Reference

Aetna: Migraine and Cluster Headache: Nonsurgical Management
http://www.aetna.com/cpb/medical/data/400_499/0462.html

Schoenen J, Vandersmissen B, Jeangette S, et al. Migraine prevention with a supraorbital transcutaneous stimulator: A randomized controlled trial. *Neurology*. 2013;80(8):697-704.

E0766

BCBSAL: Tumor-Treating Fields Therapy for Glioblastoma
<https://www.bcbsal.org/providers/policies/final/536.pdf>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare Coverage Database, National Coverage Documents; October 2015. Accessed December 20, 2017.

CGS Administrators, LLC. Jurisdiction B DME MAC, Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulators (TENS). Local Coverage Determination No. L33802; revised date October 1, 2015; reviewed December 4, 2018.

Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC. Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulators (TENS). Local Coverage Determination No. L33802. Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Carrier Jurisdiction A; revised January 1, 2011; reviewed December 4, 2018.

Applicable URAC Standard

Core 8	Staff operational tools and support
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Change/Authorization History

Revision Number	Date	Description of Change	Prepared / Reviewed by	Approved by	Review Date:
A	11-20-06	Initial Release	Rosanne Brugnani	Ken Fasse	n/a
01		Annual Review – no changes	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse	Dec. 2008
02	12-04-09	Revised- Additional supply quantities denial statement. Added: GA and GZ modifiers. Revised KX modifier. Added instructions for such a time when modifiers are implemented.	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse	
03	12-22-09	Annual Review/ no changes	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse	Dec. 2009
04	12-03-10	Annual Review/ no changes	Susan Glomb	Ken Fasse	Dec. 2010
05	07-20-11	Added Important Note to all Medical Policies	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri	
06	11-10-11	Annual Review. Added References to Policy	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri	Nov. 2011
07	04-04-12	Added reference to NH Medicaid	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri	
08	12-3-12	Annual Review – No changes	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri	Dec 12
09	12-30-13	Annual review. No changes	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri	
10	10-06-14	Added A9270- Cephalic device, which is a TENS that is applied to the forehead using a self-adhesive electrode positioned bilaterally over the upper branches of the trigeminal nerve. Non covered for use in the prophylactic treatment of episodic migraine headache.	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri	
11	11-20-14	Annual Review. Policy updated with new code effective 1-1-14 E0766 which is an Electrical Stimulation Device used for Cancer Treatment and considered experimental/investigational and not covered. See above for an additional change which included the addition of A9270 Cephalic device. Also added: Items in this policy may be subject to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) 6407 requirements.	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri	

12	12-17-15	Annual Review. Updated policy with Medicare policy criteria. Added ICD-10 codes. References updated.	Susan Glomb	Dr. B. Almasri	
13	12-08-16	Annual Review. No Changes.	Lisa Wojno	Dr. B. Almasri	December 2016
14	12-20-17	Annual review. Per Medicare, added new ICD-10 codes M48.061 and M48.062.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 2017
15	12-28-17	Added language to indicate NH Well Sense members with a diagnosis of CLBP do not require clinical study.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 2017
16	12-4-18	Annual review. Updated Medicare references.	Carol Dimech	Dr. C. Lerchin	December 2018