

# Local Coverage Article: Implantable Infusion Pumps for Chronic Pain (A55239)

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## Contractor Information

CONTRACTOR NAME	CONTRACT TYPE	CONTRACT NUMBER	JURISDICTION	STATE(S)
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01111 - MAC A	J - E	California - Entire State
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01112 - MAC B	J - E	California - Northern
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01182 - MAC B	J - E	California - Southern
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01211 - MAC A	J - E	American Samoa Guam Hawaii Northern Mariana Islands
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01212 - MAC B	J - E	American Samoa Guam Hawaii Northern Mariana Islands
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01311 - MAC A	J - E	Nevada
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01312 - MAC B	J - E	Nevada
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01911 - MAC A	J - E	American Samoa California - Entire State Guam Hawaii Nevada Northern Mariana Islands

## Article Information

### General Information

Article ID

Original Article Effective Date

**Article Title**

Implantable Infusion Pumps for Chronic Pain

**Revision Effective Date**

09/01/2016

**AMA CPT / ADA CDT / AHA NUBC Copyright Statement**

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**Revision Ending Date**

N/A

**Retirement Date**

N/A

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**Article Guidance****Article Text:**

An implanted infusion pump for chronic pain is covered by Medicare when used to 1) administer opioid drugs, singly or in combination with other opioid or non-opioid drugs, 2) intrathecal or epidural route; 3) for treatment of severe chronic intractable pain of malignant or nonmalignant origin in patients who have a life expectancy of at least three (3) months, and 4) the pain has been proven to be unresponsive to less invasive medical therapy.

In order to be considered medically reasonable and necessary, all of the following criteria must be met and clearly documented in the beneficiary's medical record:

- The administration of the medication must require the intrathecal or epidural route and be effective on a long-term basis and
- Oral or subcutaneous medication treatment are ineffective or complicated by unacceptable side effects and
- The patient's medical condition must require the use of an infusion pump for pain relief due to failure of other treatment modalities and
- The type and dosage of the medication must reasonably be expected to alleviate or reduce the pain effects.

In addition, an evaluation by an orthopedic surgeon, neurologist, neurosurgeon, oncologist or other specialist familiar with the underlying disease is required to validate that other treatments have failed to alleviate the pain and no other reasonable options are available at the time of the evaluation. Documentation that the patient is unresponsive to less invasive medical therapy shall be kept in the patient's medical record and made available upon Medical Review request.

If the above criteria have been met, a preliminary trial of intraspinal opioid or non-opioid drug administration must be undertaken with a temporary intrathecal/epidural catheter to substantiate acceptable pain relief, degree of side effects including effects on the activities of daily living, and patient acceptance and compliance.

Any drug(s) used to fill the implantable pump must be appropriate for the treatment of the individual patient. Drugs compounded for the special needs of a patient may be covered. Drugs filling the pump are often obtained singly or mixed with other drugs from compounding pharmacies. Unless the medications are administered in the exact concentrations available from national pharmaceutical companies, the medications will be considered as compounded.

FDA approved drugs used for indications other than what is accepted on the official Prescribing Information label may be covered under Medicare if the contractor determines the use to be medically accepted, taking into consideration the major drug compendia, authoritative medical literature, and/or accepted standards of medical practice. The following are examples of medications that are approved for off-label intrathecal use. **This list of drugs is not an all-inclusive list.**

- Clonidine (Duraclon) (J0735-KD)

- Bupivacaine (J3490-KD)
- Sufentanil (J3490-KD)
- Methadone (J1230-KD)

Contraindications to coverage: Implantation of an infusion pump is contraindicated under the following circumstances:

1. The patient has a known allergy or hypersensitivity to the drug being used;
2. Patients who have an infection in particular an infection at or near the implantation site; and
3. Patients whose body size is insufficient to support the weight and bulk of the device.

The patient's medical record documentation must support the reasonable and necessary requirements as outlined under the indications and limitations of coverage. The patient's history must indicate that he/she has not responded adequately to noninvasive methods of pain control such as:

- Systemic opioids; **or**
- Combination of oral analgesics (including opioids) plus other drugs known to relieve pain such as:
  - muscle relaxants,

- clonidine,
  
- anti-depressants,
  
- anti-seizure medication **or**
  
- others known to medicate pain; or
  
- Attempts to eliminate physical and behavioral abnormalities which may cause an exaggerated reaction to pain.

All of the procedure codes that are related to the refilling and the management of the pump must be billed and documented on the same claim form, including the drugs that are being administered through the pump. The drugs are not to be billed on a separate claim form. *IOM Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Publication 100-04, Chapter 17 - Drugs and Biologicals at [Chapter 17 MCPM](#). Chapter 32 Billing Requirements for Special Services at [Chapter 32 MCPM](#).*

At the time of the pump refill and/or the pump interrogation and/or the pump reprogramming, documentation should include at a minimum:

- The pump status before and after the refill,
  
- The patient's response to the current medication dose and rate,
  
- The reasons for any change in dose or the types of medications,

- A reassessment of the patient's overall condition and treatment goals (this may be reported as an E&M service),
- Proof that all applicable "incident to" requirements are met, and
- Proof that any medication billed to Medicare represents a cost to the physician or group accepting Medicare payment.

A preliminary trial of the intrathecal/epidural opioid drug or non-opioid administration must be undertaken with a temporary intrathecal/epidural catheter to substantiate adequate acceptable pain relief. The degree of side effects (including the effects on the activities of daily living) and the patient's acceptance of and compliance with the therapy must be documented in the patient's record.

Legible physician's medical documentation must be maintained in the patient's medical record and meet the criteria contained in this article. The subsequent determination that the medical record is lacking the justification for the services and/or that the documentation of the services are illegible will result in a denial as not reasonable and necessary.

A periodic reassessment of the patient should be performed according to the needs of the patient and the applicable medical standards. The frequency for interrogating and/or reprogramming the pump (62367 and 62368) should be supported by the patient's symptoms. The frequency for refill must take into account the size of the pump and dosage of the medicine. Noridian has seen problems in the past that included unnecessary frequency of interrogation and refills of the pump every month despite having a pump of 2 or 3 month capacity.

Compounded drugs are contractor priced under Medicare Part B. Noridian will reimburse compounded drugs for use in implanted infusion pumps by multiplying the price per mcg or mg in the table below by the total number of mcg or mg of each drug used to refill the pump. In addition to the combined allowable calculated by the dosage detailed, a pharmacy compounding fee of \$60 per refill will be included in the total allowable for the refill. When these drugs are provided in the hospital outpatient department by providers paid under OPPS, no separate payment is made for these drugs. The payment allowance is packaged into the payment for other services provided on the claim.

<b>Drug Name</b>	<b>Drug Fee Measure</b>
Baclofen	\$0.0030 per mcg
Bupivacaine	\$0.0400 per mg
Clonidine	\$0.0010 per mcg
Droperidol	\$0.0013 per mcg
Fentanyl PF	\$0.0072 per mcg
Hydromorphone	\$0.1300 per mg
Ketamine	\$0.0048 per mcg
Lidocaine	\$0.0400 per mg
Meperidine	\$0.0600 per mg
Methadone	\$0.0600 per mg
Midazolam Hcl	\$1.1500 per mg

Drug Name	Drug Fee Measure
Morphine Sulfate	\$0.0500 per mg
Ropivacaine	\$0.0400 per mg
Sufentanyl	\$0.0900 per mcg      Tetracaine \$0.0400 per mg
Ziconotide	\$7.9000 per mcg
Compounding Fee	\$60.000 per cartridge

## Resources

1. Angel IF, Gould HJ, Carey ME. Intrathecal morphine pump as a treatment option in chronic pain of nonmalignant origin. *Surg Neurol.* Jan 1998;49(1):92-8.
2. Chang HM. Chronic Pain, Cancer Pain Management. *Med. Clinics of North America.* May 1999;83(3):712-36.
3. Dougherty P, Staats PS. Intrathecal Drug Therapy for Chronic Pain: From Basic Science to Clinical Practice. *Anesthesiology.* Dec 1999;91(6):1891-918.
4. Fanciullo GJ, Rose RJ, Lunt PG, Whalen PK, Ross E. The state of implantable pain therapies in the United States: a nationwide survey of academic teaching programs. *Anesth Analg.* Jun 1999;88(6):1311-6.
5. Gilmer-Hill HS, Boggan JE, Smith KA, Frey CF, Wagner FC, Eein LS. Intrathecal morphine delivered via subcutaneous pump for intractable pain in pancreatic cancer. *Surg Neurol.* Jan 1999;51(1):6-11.

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## Coding Information

### Bill Type Codes:

Contractors may specify Bill Types to help providers identify those Bill Types typically used to report this service. Absence of a Bill Type does not guarantee that the policy does not apply to that Bill Type. Complete absence of all Bill Types indicates that coverage is not influenced by Bill Type and the policy should be assumed to apply equally to all claims.

N/A

### Revenue Codes:

Contractors may specify Revenue Codes to help providers identify those Revenue Codes typically used to report this service. In most instances Revenue Codes are purely advisory. Unless specified in the policy, services reported under other Revenue Codes are equally subject to this coverage determination. Complete absence of all Revenue Codes indicates that coverage is not influenced by Revenue Code and the policy should be assumed to apply equally to all Revenue Codes.

N/A

### CPT/HCPCS Codes

#### Group 1 Paragraph:

N/A

**Group 1 Codes:**

CODE	DESCRIPTION
62325	INJECTION(S), INCLUDING INDWELLING CATHETER PLACEMENT, CONTINUOUS INFUSION OR INTERMITTENT BOLUS, OF DIAGNOSTIC OR THERAPEUTIC SUBSTANCE(S) (EG, ANESTHETIC, ANTISPASMODIC, OPIOID, STEROID, OTHER SOLUTION), NOT INCLUDING NEUROLYTIC SUBSTANCES, INTERLAMINAR EPIDURAL OR SUBARACHNOID, CERVICAL OR THORACIC; WITH IMAGING GUIDANCE (IE, FLUOROSCOPY OR CT)
62327	INJECTION(S), INCLUDING INDWELLING CATHETER PLACEMENT, CONTINUOUS INFUSION OR INTERMITTENT BOLUS, OF DIAGNOSTIC OR THERAPEUTIC SUBSTANCE(S) (EG, ANESTHETIC, ANTISPASMODIC, OPIOID, STEROID, OTHER SOLUTION), NOT INCLUDING NEUROLYTIC SUBSTANCES, INTERLAMINAR EPIDURAL OR SUBARACHNOID, LUMBAR OR SACRAL (CAUDAL); WITH IMAGING GUIDANCE (IE, FLUOROSCOPY OR CT)
62350	IMPLANTATION, REVISION OR REPOSITIONING OF TUNNELED INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL CATHETER, FOR LONG-TERM MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION VIA AN EXTERNAL PUMP OR IMPLANTABLE RESERVOIR/INFUSION PUMP; WITHOUT LAMINECTOMY
62351	IMPLANTATION, REVISION OR REPOSITIONING OF TUNNELED INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL CATHETER, FOR LONG-TERM MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION VIA AN EXTERNAL PUMP OR IMPLANTABLE RESERVOIR/INFUSION PUMP; WITH LAMINECTOMY
62355	REMOVAL OF PREVIOUSLY IMPLANTED INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL CATHETER
62360	IMPLANTATION OR REPLACEMENT OF DEVICE FOR INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL DRUG INFUSION; SUBCUTANEOUS RESERVOIR
62361	IMPLANTATION OR REPLACEMENT OF DEVICE FOR INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL DRUG INFUSION; NONPROGRAMMABLE PUMP
62362	IMPLANTATION OR REPLACEMENT OF DEVICE FOR INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL DRUG INFUSION; PROGRAMMABLE PUMP, INCLUDING PREPARATION OF PUMP, WITH OR WITHOUT PROGRAMMING
62365	REMOVAL OF SUBCUTANEOUS RESERVOIR OR PUMP, PREVIOUSLY IMPLANTED FOR INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL INFUSION
62367	ELECTRONIC ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMMABLE, IMPLANTED PUMP FOR INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL DRUG INFUSION (INCLUDES EVALUATION OF RESERVOIR STATUS, ALARM STATUS, DRUG PRESCRIPTION STATUS); WITHOUT REPROGRAMMING OR REFILL
62368	ELECTRONIC ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMMABLE, IMPLANTED PUMP FOR INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL DRUG INFUSION (INCLUDES EVALUATION OF RESERVOIR STATUS, ALARM STATUS, DRUG PRESCRIPTION STATUS); WITH REPROGRAMMING



CODE	DESCRIPTION
62369	ELECTRONIC ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMMABLE, IMPLANTED PUMP FOR INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL DRUG INFUSION (INCLUDES EVALUATION OF RESERVOIR STATUS, ALARM STATUS, DRUG PRESCRIPTION STATUS); WITH REPROGRAMMING AND REFILL
62370	ELECTRONIC ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMMABLE, IMPLANTED PUMP FOR INTRATHECAL OR EPIDURAL DRUG INFUSION (INCLUDES EVALUATION OF RESERVOIR STATUS, ALARM STATUS, DRUG PRESCRIPTION STATUS); WITH REPROGRAMMING AND REFILL (REQUIRING SKILL OF A PHYSICIAN OR OTHER QUALIFIED HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL)
95990	REFILLING AND MAINTENANCE OF IMPLANTABLE PUMP OR RESERVOIR FOR DRUG DELIVERY, SPINAL (INTRATHECAL, EPIDURAL) OR BRAIN (INTRAVENTRICULAR), INCLUDES ELECTRONIC ANALYSIS OF PUMP, WHEN PERFORMED;
95991	REFILLING AND MAINTENANCE OF IMPLANTABLE PUMP OR RESERVOIR FOR DRUG DELIVERY, SPINAL (INTRATHECAL, EPIDURAL) OR BRAIN (INTRAVENTRICULAR), INCLUDES ELECTRONIC ANALYSIS OF PUMP, WHEN PERFORMED; REQUIRING SKILL OF A PHYSICIAN OR OTHER QUALIFIED HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL
J7999	COMPOUNDED DRUG, NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED

#### ICD-10 Codes that are Covered

N/A

#### ICD-10 Codes that are Not Covered

N/A

## Revision History Information

REVISION HISTORY DATE	REVISION HISTORY NUMBER	REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION
09/01/2016	R2	11/07/2018: Verbiage added indicate Compounded drugs are contractor priced under Medicare Part B and additional verbiage added: When these drugs are provided in the hospital outpatient department by providers paid under OPPS, no separate payment is made for these drugs. The payment allowance is packaged into the payment for other services provided on the claim.
09/01/2016	R1	R1- Change in verbiage from may to must regarding intraspinal opioid or non-opioid drug administration. Replacement of CPT code 62318 with 62325 and 62319 with

REVISION HISTORY DATE	REVISION HISTORY NUMBER	REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION
		62327.

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## Associated Documents

### Related Local Coverage Document(s)

N/A

### Related National Coverage Document(s)

N/A

### Statutory Requirements URL(s)

N/A

### Rules and Regulations URL(s)

N/A

### CMS Manual Explanations URL(s)

N/A

### Other URL(s)

N/A

### Public Version(s)

Updated on 12/10/2018 with effective dates 09/01/2016 - N/A

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## Keywords

- Implanted
- Infusion
- Pumps
- Chronic
- Pain
- Compound
- Drugs
- 62325
- 62327
- 62350
- 62351
- 62355
- 62360
- 62361
- 62362
- 62365

- 62367
- 62368
- 62369
- 62370
- 95990
- 95991
- J7999