

Local Coverage Article: Peripheral Nerve Blocks Non-covered for the Treatment of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathic Pain (A56034)

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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 American Samoa
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01211 - MAC A	J - E	Guam Hawaii Northern Mariana Islands American Samoa
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01212 - MAC B	J - E	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 American Samoa California - Entire State
Noridian Healthcare Solutions, LLC	A and B MAC	01911 - MAC A	J - E	Guam Hawaii Nevada Northern Mariana Islands

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Article Information

General Information

Article ID A56034	Original Article Effective Date 10/01/2015
Article Title Peripheral Nerve Blocks Non-covered for the Treatment of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathic Pain	Revision Effective Date N/A
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	Retirement Date N/A

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Article Guidance

Article Text:

The effective date of this article corresponds to the effective date of the JE Part A and Part B Nerve Blockade for Treatment of Chronic Pain and Neuropathy of 10/01/2015. LCD L35456 states; "Nerve blockade and/or electrical stimulation are non-covered for the treatment of metabolic peripheral neuropathy. The peer-reviewed medical literature has not demonstrated the efficacy or clinical utility of nerve blockade or electrical stimulation, alone or used together, in the diagnosis and/or treatment of neuropathic pain."

The use of peripheral nerve blocks for treating diabetic neuropathy is not considered reasonable and/or necessary and is not covered by Medicare Part A or B. Such use of peripheral nerve blocks is not supported by the current peer reviewed, published, evidence based scientific literature nor by specialty society guidelines. Claims are subject to review and recoupment.

This notification does not affect those regional/local blocks done as part of an operative procedure (for example wound debridement in the operating room) when performed as an adjunct to or the sole means of regional/local anesthesia for the procedure.

Sources:

- 1. Neurology 2011;76;1758; V. Bril, J. England, G.M. Franklin, et al. Evidence-based guideline: [Treatment of painful diabetic neuropathy: Report of the American Academy of Neurology, the American Association of Neuromuscular and Neurodiagnostic Medicine, and the American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation](#) This information is current as of February 7, 2013**
- 2. American Family Physician 2010;82(2):151-158 T. Lindsay, B. Rodgers, V. Savath, K. Hettinger [Treating Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathic Pain](#)**

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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 article does not apply to that Bill Type. Complete absence of all Bill Types indicates that coverage is not influenced by Bill Type and the article should be assumed to apply equally to all claims.

N/A

Revenue Codes:

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N/A

CPT/HCPCS Codes N/A

ICD-10 Codes that are Covered N/A

ICD-10 Codes that are Not Covered N/A

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Revision History Information

N/A [Back to Top](#) **Related Local Coverage Document(s)** LCD(s) [L35456 - Nerve Blockade for Treatment of Chronic Pain and Neuropathy](#)

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 06/20/2018 with effective dates 10/01/2015 - N/A [Back to Top](#)

Keywords

- Nerve Blocks
- Diabetic neuropathy
- Treat
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