

# Cigna Medical Coverage Policies – Musculoskeletal Epidural Adhesiolysis

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## Instructions for use

The following coverage policy applies to health benefit plans administered by Cigna. Coverage policies are intended to provide guidance in interpreting certain standard Cigna benefit plans and are used by medical directors and other health care professionals in making medical necessity and other coverage determinations. Please note the terms of a customer's particular benefit plan document may differ significantly from the standard benefit plans upon which these coverage policies are based. For example, a customer's benefit plan document may contain a specific exclusion related to a topic addressed in a coverage policy.

In the event of a conflict, a customer's benefit plan document always supersedes the information in the coverage policy. In the absence of federal or state coverage mandates, benefits are ultimately determined by the terms of the applicable benefit plan document. Coverage determinations in each specific instance require consideration of:

1. The terms of the applicable benefit plan document in effect on the date of service
2. Any applicable laws and regulations
3. Any relevant collateral source materials including coverage policies
4. The specific facts of the particular situation

Coverage policies relate exclusively to the administration of health benefit plans. Coverage policies are not recommendations for treatment and should never be used as treatment guidelines.

This evidence-based medical coverage policy has been developed by eviCore, Inc. Some information in this coverage policy may not apply to all benefit plans administered by Cigna.

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## CMM-207: Epidural Adhesiolysis

**Definitions****General Guidelines****Non-Indications****Codes (CMM-207)****References (CMM-207)**

## Definitions

- **Epidural Adhesiolysis** (also known as epidural neurolysis, epidural decompressive neuroplasty, and Racz neurolysis): a treatment for back pain that involves disruption, reduction, and/or elimination of fibrous tissue from the epidural space, which is carried out by either catheter manipulation or the injection of saline or other adhesiolytic agents. A catheter is used to enter the epidural space through a caudal, interlaminar, or transforaminal approach. The goal is to free the nerve root of adhesions and allow introduction of medications to the affected nerve root. An anesthetic along with a glucocorticosteroid may also be injected as part of the procedure. These procedures may also involve spinal endoscopy to visually address the adhesions.

## General Guidelines

There is insufficient scientific evidence to support the use of epidural adhesiolysis, performed by catheter or endoscopically, as a treatment for back pain.

## Non-Indications

Epidural adhesiolysis, performed by catheter or endoscopically, as a treatment for back pain is considered **experimental, investigational, or unproven (EIU)**.

## Codes (CMM-207)

The inclusion of any code in this table does not imply that the code is under management or requires prior authorization. Refer to the applicable health plan for management details. Prior authorization of a code listed in this table is not a guarantee of payment. The Certificate of Coverage or Evidence of Coverage policy outlines the terms and conditions of the member's health insurance policy.

| Code         | Code Description/Definition  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>62263</b> | Percutaneous lysis of epidural adhesions using solution injection (e.g., hypertonic saline, enzyme) or mechanical means (e.g., catheter) including radiologic localization (includes contrast when administered), multiple adhesiolysis sessions; 2 or more days |
| <b>62264</b> | Percutaneous lysis of epidural adhesions using solution injection (e.g., hypertonic saline, enzyme) or mechanical means (e.g., catheter) including radiologic localization (includes contrast when administered), multiple adhesiolysis sessions; 1 day          |
| <b>62280</b> | Injection/infusion of neurolytic substance (e.g., alcohol, phenol, iced saline solutions), with or without other therapeutic substance; subarachnoid   |
| <b>62281</b> | Injection/infusion of neurolytic substance (e.g., alcohol, phenol, iced saline solutions), with or without other therapeutic substance; epidural, cervical or thoracic   |
| <b>62282</b> | Injection/infusion of neurolytic substance (e.g., alcohol, phenol, iced saline solutions), with or without other therapeutic substance; epidural, lumbar, sacral (caudal)  |

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