Dear Colleagues,  

March 1, 2024

The ASTS Business Practice Services Committee and Legislative and Regulatory Committee are happy to update the original 2012 CPT guide for transplant professionals with 2024 information.

We hope that you find this handy guide easy to use and helpful. Please refer to your latest edition of the American Medical Association (AMA) CPT Professional Edition for additional codes, terminology, rules, and guidelines and discuss this with your professional and hospital coding specialists. We also are supplying free online resources on the CMS website that are updated with new information every year.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Heart/Lung Transplantation
Recipient heart with or without lung allotransplantation
(For artificial heart systems with cardiectomy, see category III codes 0051T-0053T)
33930 Donor cardiectomy-pneumonectomy including cold preservation
33933 Backbench preparation of cadaver donor heart/lung prior to transplantation
33935 Heart-lung transplant with recipient cardiectomy-pneumonectomy
33940 Donor cardiectomy (including cold preservation)
33944 Backbench preparation of cadaver donor heart prior to transplantation
33945 Heart transplant, with or without recipient cardiectomy

Intestinal Transplantation
Allograft Preparation
44715 Backbench preparation of cadaver or living donor intestine prior to transplantation
44720 Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor allograft, venous anastomosis, each
44721 Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor allograft, arterial anastomosis, each
44799 Unlisted procedure, intestine

Allotransplantation
44135 Intestinal allotransplantation, from cadaver donor
44136 From living donor
44137 Removal of transplanted intestinal allograft, complete
44139 Mobilization of splenic flexure performed in conjunction with partial colectomy
44140 Colectomy, partial with anastomosis
44015 Needle catheter jejunostomy (surgical feeding tube)
43500 Gastrostomy, exploration (surgical G-tube)

Donor Enterectomy
44132 Donor enterectomy (including preservation), open from cadaver
44133 partial, from living donor

Liver Transplantation
47133 Donor hepatectomy (including preservation) from cadaver
47135 Liver allotransplantation; orthotopic, partial or whole
47140 Living donor hepatectomy (including preservation), left lateral segment (II, III)
47141 total left lobectomy (segments II, III and IV)
47142 total right lobectomy (segments V, VI, VII, VIII)
47143 Backbench standard preparation of cadaver donor whole liver graft, including cholecystectomy; without trisegmentectomy or lobe split
with trisegment split of whole liver graft into 2 partial liver grafts (ie. left lateral segment (II, III))
with lobe split of whole liver graft into 2 partial liver grafts (ie. left lobe and right lobe segment)
Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor allograft, **venous** anastomosis, each
Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor allograft, **arterial** anastomosis, each
Anastomosis, Roux en Y, of extrahepatic duct (fuse bile ducts to bowel)
Fuse Intrahepatic bile ducts to bowel
Duct to duct anastomosis (Choledochocholedocostomy)
Placement of choledochal stent
Fuse liver duct and intestine (choledochoduodenostomy)
Suture bile duct injury
Liver Needle Biopsy when done with other procedure

Other Liver Procedures
Management of liver hemorrhage, simple suture
complex suture of liver wound or injury
extensive debridement, coagulation w w/o packing
re-exploration of hepatic wound for removal of packing
Drainage of abdomen
Exploration of Abdomen
Re-Opening of Abdomen
Re-Opening for hemorrhage (some coders may not allow this for Abd)

Lung Transplantation
Donor pneumonectomy(s)(including cold preservation)
Lung transplant, single; without cardiopulmonary bypass
with cardiopulmonary bypass
Lung transplant, double (bilateral sequential or en bloc)
with cardiopulmonary bypass
Backbench standard preparation of single cadaver donor lung allograft
Backbench bilateral lung preparation

Pancreas Transplantation
Pancreatectomy, total or subtotal, with autologous transplantation of pancreas or islet cells
Donor pancreatectomy (including cold preservation), with or without duodenal segment for transplantation
Backbench standard preparation of cadaver donor allograft prior to transplantation including splenectomy, duodenotomy, CBD ligation, Y graft arterial anastomosis
Backbench reconstruction of donor pancreas, venous anastomosis, each
Transplantation of pancreas allograft
Removal of transplanted pancreatic allograft
Unlisted procedure, pancreas
Renal Transplantation
50300 Donor nephrectomy (including cold preservation); from cadaver donor, unilateral or bilateral
50320 Remove kidney open from living donor (Donor Nephrectomy)
50323 Backbench standard preparation of cadaver donor renal allograft prior to transplantation.
50325 Backbench standard preparation of living donor renal allograft prior to transplantation
50327 Backbench reconstruction of cadaver or living donor renal allograft prior to transplantation; venous anastomosis each
50328 arterial anastomosis, each
50329 ureteral anastomosis, each
50340 Recipient nephrectomy (separate procedure; removal of native kidney)
50360 Renal allotransplantation, implantation of graft; without recipient nephrectomy
50365 with recipient nephrectomy
50370 Removal of transplanted renal allograft
50380 Renal autotransplantation, reimplantation of kidney
50605 Insertion of indwelling stent, all types
50500 Repair of kidney wound
50547 Lap removal donor kidney (Lap donor nephrectomy)
50760 Fusion of ureters
50780 Reimplant of ureter in bladder
52310 Cystoscopy with simple removal of ureteral stent

Hemodialysis Access
36800 Insertion of cannula for hemodialysis
36810 arteriovenous, external (Scribner type)
36815 arteriovenous, external revision, or closure
36818 Arteriovenous anastomosis, open; upper arm cephalic vein transposition
36819 Arteriovenous anastomosis, open; upper arm basilic vein transposition
36820 Arteriovenous anastomosis, open; by forearm vein transposition
36821 Arteriovenous anastomosis, open; direct, any site (eg Cimino type)

Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter
49422 Removal PD Catheter
49421 Open placement PD Catheter
49324 Laparoscopic placement PD Catheter (Omentopexy add-on 49326)
49435 Add on for subcutaneous extension of catheter (eg to chest in obese patient)
49436 Delayed creation of exit site for previously embedded subcutaneous PD Catheter

Abdominal Wall Hernias: (new 2023)
49591 Any anterior abd wall initial, reducible hernia (open or lap), includes mesh if used, less than 3 cm (same, but recurrent hernia: 49613)
49592 – as above, incarcerated or strangulated less than 3 cm (recurrent 49614)
49593 – as 49591 (reducible), but 3 to 10 cm total length (recurrent 49615)
49594 – as 49592 (incarcerated / strangulated), but 3 to 10 cm total length (recur 49616)
49595 – as 49591 (reducible), but > 10 cm total length (recurrent 49617)
49596 - as 49592 (incarcerated / strangulated), but > 10 cm total length (recurrent 49618)

Commonly Used Procedure Modifiers
22* Unusual procedure. Use this for procedures that require additional work (e.g. lysis of adhesions, retransplant etc) or are very difficult. * must specify level of difficulty 25%, 50%, 75% or 100% more than usual. Op note must support level. T Allows for additional charges based on percent specified.

58 Staged Procedure. Use this for planned take back operation. (abdominal packing for 24 hours, etc). Allows for additional charge above primary procedure.

62 Two Surgeons/Different Skills. Use this when two attendings perform a case together and can split the case into two parts. Requires two operative notes from each surgeon to add up to one whole case. (e.g. One surgeon dictates backbench and implant graft; other surgeon dictates native organ removal). Allows charges at 125% rather than usual 110% (100% attending, 10% assistant fee).

80 Assistant Surgeon

82 Assistant Surgeon when no qualified resident is available.

80 or 82 Allows 10% assistant fee per CMS guidelines. Standard major transplant operations qualify (50360.82, 47135.82, 48544.82). Documentation of the non-availability of a qualified resident is suggested.

See CPT book for additional codes and modifiers.

CPT code and RVU online resources:
https://www.cms.gov/medicare/physician-fee-schedule/search/overview

2024 all RVUs in downloaded zip excel files:

RVU files all years: https://www.cms.gov/medicare/payment/fee-schedules/physician/pfs-relative-value-files

https://www.cms.gov/medicare/physician-fee-schedule/search