

1) What CPT® code is most commonly billed when a urethral stent is inserted using the UroLume® device?

CPT® 52282 (Cystourethroscopy, with insertion of permanent urethral stent) is the appropriate code to report when inserting the UroLume® endoprosthesis.

2) Is prior authorization or pre-certification necessary for urethral stent procedures?

As a rule, Medicare does not require prior authorization for any procedure. Commercial or private insurance carriers (e.g., Aetna, Blue Cross, etc.) and some Medicare supplemental plans may require a prior authorization or pre-certification for surgical procedures. Therefore, it is recommended that you check with insurers (primary and secondary) to verify coverage and pre-certification requirements prior to performing any procedure.

3) Are urethral stent procedures payable by Medicare in an Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC)?

Yes, CPT 52282 is reimbursed by Medicare in the ASC setting.

4) What can be done if the patient is denied coverage by his health plan?

Patients should contact their insurance plan and request reconsideration. In addition, providers may appeal the denial and include a letter of medical necessity. Providers may contact the Health Care Affairs Department at 888-865-3373 for information on appeal assistance.

Disclaimer: While reasonable efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of the information set forth, AMS, Inc. can not guarantee reimbursement for any product or procedure. Providers should report the codes that accurately describe the products and procedures furnished and the patient's medical condition. Providers should contact their payers if they have questions or need specific co-payment, coverage and billing/coding policies as well as to update the information described herein.

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Coding Resources:

1. CPT 2011. Current Procedural Terminology, Professional Edition. American Medical Association, Chicago, IL
2. Expert 2011: HCPCS Level II. Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System. American Medical Association. Ingenix, Salt Lake City, UT
3. EncoderPro.com. Ingenix, Inc. 2011, Salt Lake City, UT