

CPT® Coding Examples for Common Spine Procedures

This list presents Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) coding examples for common spine procedures.

CERVICAL

Anterior Cervical Discectomy with Interbody Fusion (ACDF)			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Anterior interbody fusion, with discectomy and decompression; cervical below C2	22551		1 st interspace
cervical below C2, each additional interspace	22552		apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Insertion of interbody biomechanical device (e.g., cages) To intervertebral disc space in conjunction with interbody fusion	22853 22853	59	1 st interspace, if applicable each additional interspace
Anterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) (Do not report when anterior instrumentation is considered integral to an interbody device and for the purpose of device anchoring (e.g., screws, flanges))	22845 22846 22847		2-3 vertebral segments 4-7 vertebral segments 8+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material	20930		
Allograft, structural	20931		
Autograft, local	20936		
Autograft, morselized	20937		
Autograft, structural	20938		

Anterior Cervical Fusion without Decompression			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Arthrodesis, anterior interbody technique, including minimal discectomy to prepare interspace (other than for decompression); cervical below C2	22554		1 st interspace
each additional interspace	22585		apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Insertion of interbody biomechanical device (e.g., cages) To intervertebral disc space in conjunction with interbody fusion	22853 22853	59	1 st interspace, if applicable each additional interspace
Anterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) (Do not report when anterior instrumentation is considered integral to an interbody device and for the purpose of device anchoring (e.g., screws, flanges))	22845 22846 22847		2-3 vertebral segments 4-7 vertebral segments 8+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material	20930		
Allograft, structural	20931		
Autograft, local	20936		
Autograft, morselized	20937		
Autograft, structural	20938		

Cervical Arthroplasty/Cervical Disc Replacement			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Total disc arthroplasty (artificial disc), anterior approach, including discectomy with end plate preparation (includes osteophyctomy for nerve root or spinal cord decompression and microdissection);			
single interspace, cervical	22856		1 st interspace
second level, cervical	22858		2 nd interspace

Posterior Craniocervical Fusion			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Arthrodesis, posterior technique, craniocervical (occiput-C2)	22590		Occiput – C2
Arthrodesis, posterior or posterolateral technique, single level; cervical below C2 segment each additional vertebral segment	22600 22614	51	1 st segment below C2 apply 59 modifier for 3+ vertebral segment(s)
Posterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) Posterior non-segmental instrumentation Internal spinal fixation by wiring of spinous processes Posterior segmental instrumentation; 3-6 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 7-12 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 13 or more vertebral segments	22840 22841 22842 22843 22844		3 to 6 vertebral segments 7 to 12 vertebral segments 13+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material Allograft, structural Autograft, local Autograft, morselized Autograft, structural	20930 20931 20936 20937 20938		

Cervical Laminoplasty			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
(<i>select applicable code</i>) Laminoplasty, cervical, with decompression of the spinal cord, 2 or more vertebral segments; with reconstruction of the posterior bony elements (including the application of bridging bone graft and non-segmental fixation devices [eg, wire, suture, mini-plates], when performed)	63050 63051		2 or more vertebral segments

LUMBAR

Anterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion (ALIF)			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Arthrodesis, anterior interbody technique, including minimal discectomy to prepare interspace (other than for decompression); lumbar each additional interspace	22558 22585		1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Insertion of interbody biomechanical device (e.g., cages) to intervertebral disc space in conjunction with interbody fusion	22853 22853	59	1 st interspace, if applicable each additional interspace
Anterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) (<i>Do not report when anterior instrumentation is considered integral to an interbody device and for the purpose of device anchoring (e.g., screws, flanges)</i>)	22845 22846 22847		2-3 vertebral segments 4-7 vertebral segments 8+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material Allograft, structural Autograft, local Autograft, morselized Autograft, structural	20930 20931 20936 20937 20938		

Lateral Lumbar Interbody Fusion (LLIF) (aka: DLIF, XLIF, transposas interbody)

Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Arthrodesis, anterior interbody technique, including minimal discectomy to prepare interspace (other than for decompression); lumbar each additional interspace	22558 22585		1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Insertion of interbody biomechanical device (e.g., cages) to intervertebral disc space in conjunction with interbody fusion	22853 22853	59	1 st interspace, if applicable each additional interspace
Anterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) (Do not report when anterior instrumentation is considered integral to an interbody device and for the purpose of device anchoring (e.g., screws, flanges))	22845 22846 22847		2-3 vertebral segments 4-7 vertebral segments 8+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material Allograft, structural Autograft, local Autograft, morselized Autograft, structural	20930 20931 20936 20937 20938		

ALIF/LLIF and Posterolateral Fusion

Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Arthrodesis, posterior or posterolateral technique, single level; lumbar (with lateral transverse technique, when performed) each additional vertebral segment	22612 22614		1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ vertebral segment(s)
Arthrodesis, anterior interbody technique, including minimal discectomy to prepare interspace (other than for decompression); lumbar each additional interspace	22558 22585	51	1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Insertion of interbody biomechanical device (e.g., cages) to intervertebral disc space in conjunction with interbody fusion	22853 22853	59	1 st interspace, if applicable each additional interspace
Posterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) Posterior non-segmental instrumentation Internal spinal fixation by wiring of spinous processes Posterior segmental instrumentation; 3-6 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 7-12 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 13 or more vertebral segments	22840 22841 22842 22843 22844		3 to 6 vertebral segments 7 to 12 vertebral segments 13+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material Allograft, structural Autograft, local Autograft, morselized Autograft, structural	20930 20931 20936 20937 20938		

Posterolateral Fusion (PLF) with Posterior Instrumentation

Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Arthrodesis, posterior or posterolateral technique, single level; lumbar (with lateral transverse technique, when performed) each additional vertebral segment	22612 22614		1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ vertebral segment(s)
Posterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) Posterior non-segmental instrumentation Internal spinal fixation by wiring of spinous processes Posterior segmental instrumentation; 3-6 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 7-12 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 13 or more vertebral segments	22840 22841 22842 22843 22844		3 to 6 vertebral segments 7 to 12 vertebral segments 13+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material Allograft, structural Autograft, local Autograft, morselized Autograft, structural	20930 20931 20936 20937 20938		

Posterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion (PLIF)/Transforaminal Lumbar Interbody Fusion (TLIF) with Posterior Instrumentation

Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Arthrodesis, posterior interbody technique, including laminectomy and/or discectomy to prepare interspace (other than for decompression), single interspace; lumbar each additional interspace	22630 22632		1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
<i>Report applicable code if decompression is performed:</i> Laminotomy (hemilaminectomy), with decompression of nerve root(s); 1 interspace, lumbar each additional interspace	63030 63035	51, 59	1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Laminectomy, facetectomy and foraminotomy (unilateral or bilateral with decompression of spinal cord, cauda equina and/or nerve root[s], single vertebral segment; lumbar each additional segment	63047 63048	51, 59	1 st vertebral segment apply 59 modifier for 3+ vertebral segment(s)
Insertion of interbody biomechanical device (e.g., cages) to intervertebral disc space in conjunction with interbody fusion	22853 22853	59	1 st interspace, if applicable each additional interspace
Posterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) Posterior non-segmental instrumentation Internal spinal fixation by wiring of spinous processes Posterior segmental instrumentation; 3-6 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 7-12 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 13 or more vertebral segments	22840 22841 22842 22843 22844		3 to 6 vertebral segments 7 to 12 vertebral segments 13+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material Allograft, structural Autograft, local Autograft, morselized Autograft, structural	20930 20931 20936 20937 20938		

NOTE: CPT codes 63030 and 63047 are bundled per National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) edits with code 22630. CPT® Assistant (January 2001, page 12) states that these codes can be reported in addition to the fusion code if performed for decompression (apply modifier -59 to the decompression code).

PLIF/TLIF with Posterolateral Fusion and Instrumentation

Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Arthrodesis, combined posterior or posterolateral technique with posterior interbody technique including laminectomy and/or discectomy sufficient to prepare interspace (other than for decompression), single interspace and segment; lumbar each additional interspace and segment	22633 22634		1 st interspace and segment apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s) and segments(s)
<i>Report applicable code if decompression is performed:</i> Laminotomy (hemilaminectomy), with decompression of nerve root(s); 1 interspace, lumbar each additional interspace	63030 63035	51, 59	1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Laminectomy, facetectomy and foraminotomy (unilateral or bilateral with decompression of spinal cord, cauda equina and/or nerve root[s], single vertebral segment; lumbar each additional segment	63047 63048	51, 59	1 st vertebral segment apply 59 modifier for 3+ vertebral segment(s)
Insertion of interbody biomechanical device (e.g., cages) to intervertebral disc space in conjunction with interbody fusion	22853 22853	59	1 st interspace, if applicable each additional interspace
Posterior instrumentation (<i>select applicable code</i>) Posterior non-segmental instrumentation Internal spinal fixation by wiring of spinous processes Posterior segmental instrumentation; 3-6 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 7-12 vertebral segments Posterior segmental instrumentation; 13 or more vertebral segments	22840 22841 22842 22843 22844		3 to 6 vertebral segments 7 to 12 vertebral segments 13+ vertebral segments
Application of bone graft (<i>select applicable code</i>) Allograft, morselized, or placement of osteopromotive material Allograft, structural Autograft, local Autograft, morselized Autograft, structural	20930 20931 20936 20937 20938		

NOTE: CPT codes 63030 and 63047 are bundled per National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) edits with code 22633. CPT® Assistant (January 2001, page 12) states that these codes can be reported in addition to the fusion code if performed for decompression (apply modifier -59 to the decompression code).

Discectomy, Lumbar			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Laminotomy (hemilaminectomy), with decompression of nerve root(s), including partial facetectomy, foraminotomy and/or excision of herniated intervertebral disc; 1 interspace, lumbar each additional interspace	63030 63035		1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)

NOTE: If procedure is performed bilaterally, report modifier 50.

Laminotomy/Laminectomy, Lumbar			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Laminectomy with exploration and/or decompression of spinal cord and/or cauda equina, without facetectomy, foraminotomy or discectomy (eg, spinal stenosis), 1 or 2 vertebral segments; lumbar, except for spondylolisthesis more than 2 vertebral segments; lumbar	63005 63017		1 st or 2 nd vertebral segments more than 2 vertebral segments
Laminectomy with removal of abnormal facets and/or pars inter-articularis with decompression of cauda equina and nerve roots for spondylolisthesis, lumbar (Gill type procedure)	63012		Gill type procedure
Laminotomy (hemilaminectomy), with decompression of nerve root(s), including partial facetectomy, foraminotomy and/or excision of herniated intervertebral disc; 1 interspace, lumbar each additional interspace	63030 63035		1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Laminotomy (hemilaminectomy), with decompression of nerve root(s), including partial facetectomy, foraminotomy and/or excision of herniated intervertebral disc, reexploration, single interspace; lumbar each additional lumbar interspace	63042 63044		1 st interspace apply 59 modifier for 3+ interspace(s)
Laminectomy, facetectomy and foraminotomy (unilateral or bilateral with decompression of spinal cord, cauda equina and/or nerve root[s], single vertebral segment; lumbar each additional segment	63047 63048		1 st vertebral segment apply 59 modifier for 3+ vertebral segment(s)

Interlaminar/Interspinous Process Device Insertion			
Procedure Description	Code	Modifier	Comments
Insertion of interlaminar/interspinous process stabilization/distraction device, without fusion, including image guidance when performed, with open decompression, lumbar; single level second level	22867 22868		1 st level 2 nd level
Insertion of interlaminar/interspinous process stabilization/distraction device, without open decompression or fusion, including image guidance when performed, lumbar; single level second level	22869 22870		1 st level 2 nd level

For further assistance with reimbursement questions, contact the Zimmer Biomet Reimbursement Hotline at 866-946-0444 or reimbursement@zimmerbiomet.com, or visit our reimbursement web site at zimmerbiomet.com/reimbursement.

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