ANESTHESIA SERVICES FOR GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPIC PROCEDURES

Description: This policy addresses anesthesia services during gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures. It does not address anesthesia services for diagnostic or therapeutic procedures other than gastrointestinal endoscopy.

Anesthesia services include all services associated with the administration and monitoring of analgesia/anesthesia to a patient in order to produce partial or complete loss of sensation. Examples of various methods of anesthesia include intravenous sedation (“conscious sedation”), monitored anesthesia care (MAC), regional anesthesia, and general anesthesia.

Definitions: American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Physical Status Classification System
ASA Physical Status 1: A normal healthy patient
ASA Physical Status 2: A patient with mild systemic disease
ASA Physical Status 3: A patient with severe systemic disease
ASA Physical Status 4: A patient with severe systemic disease that is a constant threat to life
ASA Physical Status 5: A moribund patient who is not expected to survive without the operation

Policy:
I. Intravenous sedation (“conscious sedation”) ordered by the attending physician and administered by the surgeon or physician performing the gastrointestinal endoscopic procedure may be considered MEDICALLY NECESSARY.

II. Other types of anesthesia services including general and monitored anesthesia care (MAC) may be considered MEDICALLY NECESSARY during gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures when there is documentation by the operating physician and/or the anesthesiologist that ANY of the following
situations exist:
A. Prolonged or therapeutic endoscopic procedure requiring deep sedation; OR
B. A history of or anticipated intolerance to standard sedatives (e.g., patient is on chronic narcotics or benzodiazepines, or patient has a neuropsychiatric disorder, history of idiosyncratic reaction to sedatives, or a neurodevelopmental impairment); OR
C. Increased risk for complications due to severe comorbidity (American Society of Anesthesiologists [ASA] Physical Status 3 or greater); OR
D. Patients over 70 years of age; OR
E. Patients less than 18 years of age; OR
F. Pregnancy; OR
G. Patients with active medical problems related to drug or alcohol abuse; OR
H. Uncooperative or acutely agitated patients (e.g., delirium, organic brain disease, senile dementia); OR
I. Morbid obesity (body mass index [BMI] > 40); OR
J. Spasticity or movement disorder complicating the procedure; OR
K. Increased risk for airway obstruction due to anatomic variant including ANY of the following:
   1. History of previous problems with anesthesia or sedation; OR
   2. History of stridor or sleep apnea; OR
   3. Dysmorphic facial features, such as Pierre-Robin syndrome or trisomy-21; OR
   4. Presence of oral abnormalities including, but not limited to, a small oral opening (less than 3 cm in an adult), high arched palate, macroglossia, tonsillar hypertrophy, or a non-visible uvula (not visible when tongue is protruded with patient in sitting position, e.g., Mallampati class greater than II); OR
   5. Neck abnormalities including, but not limited to, short neck, obesity involving the neck and facial structures, limited neck extension, decreased hyoid-mental distance (less than 3 cm in an adult), neck mass, cervical spine disease or trauma, tracheal deviation, or advanced rheumatoid arthritis; OR
   6. Jaw abnormalities including, but not limited to, micrognathia, retrognathia, trismus, or significant malocclusion; OR
L. Increased risk of aspiration.

III. The routine assistance of an anesthesiologist or Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) for average risk adult patients undergoing standard upper and/or lower gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures is considered NOT MEDICALLY NECESSARY.
Coverage: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota medical policies apply generally to all Blue Cross and Blue Plus plans and products. Benefit plans vary in coverage and some plans may not provide coverage for certain services addressed in the medical policies.

Medicaid products and some self-insured plans may have additional policies and prior authorization requirements. Receipt of benefits is subject to all terms and conditions of the member’s summary plan description (SPD). As applicable, review the provisions relating to a specific coverage determination, including exclusions and limitations. Blue Cross reserves the right to revise, update and/or add to its medical policies at any time without notice.

For Medicare NCD and/or Medicare LCD, please consult CMS or National Government Services websites.

Refer to the Pre-Certification/Pre-Authorization section of the Medical Behavioral Health Policy Manual for the full list of services, procedures, prescription drugs, and medical devices that require Pre-certification/Pre-Authorization. Note that services with specific coverage criteria may be reviewed retrospectively to determine if criteria are being met. Retrospective denial of claims may result if criteria are not met.

Coding: The following codes are included below for informational purposes only, and are subject to change without notice. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement.

CPT:
00740 Anesthesia for upper gastrointestinal endoscopic procedures, endoscope introduced proximal to duodenum
00810 Anesthesia for lower intestinal endoscopic procedures, endoscope introduced distal to duodenum

Endoscopic Procedures: Upper Gastrointestinal
43200 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, when performed (separate procedure)
43201 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with directed submucosal injection(s), any substance
43202 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with biopsy, single or multiple
43204 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with injection sclerosis of esophageal varices
43205 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with band ligation of esophageal varices
43206 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with optical endomicroscopy
43211 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic mucosal resection
43212 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with placement of endoscopic stent (includes pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed)
43213 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with dilation of esophagus, by balloon or dilator, retrograde (includes fluoroscopic guidance, when performed)
43214 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with dilation of esophagus with balloon (30 mm diameter or larger) (includes fluoroscopic guidance, when performed)
43215 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of foreign body
43216 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery
43217 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by snare technique
43220 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic balloon dilation (less than 30 mm diameter)
43226 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with insertion of guide wire followed by passage of dilator(s) over guide wire
43227 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with control of bleeding, any method
43229 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) (includes pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed)
43231 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic ultrasound examination
43232 Esophagoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic ultrasound-guided intramural or transmural fine needle aspiration/biopsy(s)
43233 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with dilation of esophagus with balloon (30 mm diameter or larger) (includes fluoroscopic guidance, when performed)
43235 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, when performed (separate procedure)
43236 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with directed submucosal injection(s), any substance
43237 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic ultrasound examination limited to the esophagus, stomach or duodenum, and adjacent structures
43238 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic ultrasound-guided intramural or transmural fine needle aspiration/biopsy(s), (includes endoscopic ultrasound examination limited to the esophagus, stomach or duodenum, and adjacent structures)
43239 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with biopsy, single or multiple
43240 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transmural drainage of pseudocyst (includes placement of transmural drainage catheter[s]/stent[s], when performed, and endoscopic ultrasound, when performed)
43241 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with insertion of intraluminal tube or catheter
43242 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic ultrasound-guided intramural or transmural fine needle aspiration/biopsy(s) (includes endoscopic ultrasound examination of the esophagus, stomach, and either the duodenum or a surgically altered stomach where the jejunum is examined distal to the anastomosis)
43243 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with injection sclerosis of esophageal/gastric varices
43244 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with band ligation of esophageal/gastric varices
43245 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with dilation of gastric/duodenal stricture(s) (eg, balloon, bougie)
43246 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with directed placement of percutaneous gastrostomy tube
43247 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of foreign body
43248 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with insertion of guide wire followed by passage of dilator(s) through esophagus over guide wire
43249 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic balloon dilation of esophagus (less than 30 mm diameter)
43250 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery
43251 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by snare technique
43252 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with optical endomicroscopy
43253 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with transendoscopic ultrasound-guided transmural injection of diagnostic or therapeutic substance(s) (eg, anesthetic, neurolytic agent) or fiducial marker(s) (includes endoscopic ultrasound examination of the esophagus, stomach, and either the duodenum or a surgically altered stomach where the jejunum is examined distal to the anastomosis)
43254 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic mucosal resection
43255 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with control of bleeding, any method
43257 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with delivery of thermal energy to the muscle of lower esophageal sphincter and/or gastric cardia, for treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disease

43259 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with endoscopic ultrasound examination, including the esophagus, stomach, and either the duodenum or a surgically altered stomach where the jejunum is examined distal to the anastomosis

43260 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, when performed (separate procedure)

43261 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with biopsy, single or multiple

43262 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with sphincterotomy/papillotomy

43263 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with pressure measurement of sphincter of Oddi

43264 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal of calculi/debris from biliary/pancreatic duct(s)

43265 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with destruction of calculi, any method (eg, mechanical, electrohydraulic, lithotripsy)

43266 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with placement of endoscopic stent (includes pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed)

43270 Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transoral; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) (includes pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed)

43273 Endoscopic cannulation of papilla with direct visualization of pancreatic/common bile duct(s) (List separately in addition to code(s) for primary procedure)

43274 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with placement of endoscopic stent into biliary or pancreatic duct, including pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed, including sphincterotomy, when performed, each stent

43275 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal of foreign body(s) or stent(s) from biliary/pancreatic duct(s)

43276 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal and exchange of stent(s), biliary or pancreatic duct, including pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed, including sphincterotomy, when performed, each stent exchanged

43277 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with trans-endoscopic balloon dilation of biliary/pancreatic duct(s) or of ampulla (sphincteroplasty), including sphincterotomy, when performed, each duct

43278 Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s), including pre- and
Endoscopic Procedures: Small Intestine and Stomal

44360 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)

44361 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with biopsy, single or multiple

44363 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with removal of foreign body

44364 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by snare technique

44365 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery

44366 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with control of bleeding (eg, injection, bipolar cautery, unipolar cautery, laser, heater probe, stapler, plasma coagulator)

44369 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) not amenable to removal by hot biopsy forceps, bipolar cautery or snare technique

44370 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation)

44372 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with placement of percutaneous jejunostomy tube

44373 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, not including ileum; with conversion of percutaneous gastrostomy tube to percutaneous jejunostomy tube

44376 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, including ileum; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)

44377 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, including ileum; with biopsy, single or multiple

44378 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, including ileum; with control of bleeding (eg, injection, bipolar cautery, unipolar cautery, laser, heater probe, stapler, plasma coagulator)

44379 Small intestinal endoscopy, enteroscopy beyond second portion of duodenum, including ileum; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation)

44380 Ileoscopy, through stoma; diagnostic, with or without collection
of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)
44382 Ileoscopy, through stoma; with biopsy, single or multiple
44383 Ileoscopy, through stoma; with transendoscopic stent placement
(includes predilation)
44385 Endoscopic evaluation of small intestinal (abdominal or pelvic)
pouch; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing
or washing (separate procedure)
44386 Endoscopic evaluation of small intestinal (abdominal or pelvic)
pouch; with biopsy, single or multiple\n44388 Colonoscopy through stoma; diagnostic, with or without
collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)
44389 Colonoscopy through stoma; with biopsy, single or multiple
44390 Colonoscopy through stoma; with removal of foreign body
44391 Colonoscopy through stoma; with control of bleeding (eg,
injection, bipolar cautery, unipolar cautery, laser, heater probe, stapler,
plasma coagulator)
44392 Colonoscopy through stoma; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s),
or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery
44393 Colonoscopy through stoma; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s),
or other lesion(s) not amenable to removal by hot biopsy forceps,
bipolar cautery or snare technique
44394 Colonoscopy through stoma; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s),
or other lesion(s) by snare technique
44397 Colonoscopy through stoma; with transendoscopic stent
placement (includes predilation)

Endoscopic Procedures: Proctosigmoidoscopy, Sigmoidoscopy,
Colonoscopy
45300 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; diagnostic, with or without collection
of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)
45303 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with dilation (eg, balloon, guide
wire, bougie)
45305 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with biopsy, single or multiple
45307 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with removal of foreign body
45308 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with removal of single tumor, polyp,
or other lesion by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery
45309 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with removal of single tumor, polyp,
or other lesion by snare technique
45315 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with removal of multiple tumors,
polyps, or other lesions by hot biopsy forceps, bipolar cautery or snare
technique
45317 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with control of bleeding (eg,
injection, bipolar cautery, unipolar cautery, laser, heater probe, stapler,
plasma coagulator)
45320 Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s),
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45321</td>
<td>Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with decompression of volvulus</td>
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<tr>
<td>45327</td>
<td>Proctosigmoidoscopy, rigid; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>45330</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing (separate procedure)</td>
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<tr>
<td>45331</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with biopsy, single or multiple</td>
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<tr>
<td>45332</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with removal of foreign body</td>
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<tr>
<td>45333</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery</td>
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<tr>
<td>45334</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with control of bleeding (eg, injection, bipolar cautery, unipolar cautery, laser, heater probe, stapler, plasma coagulator)</td>
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<tr>
<td>45335</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with directed submucosal injection(s), any substance</td>
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<td>45337</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with decompression of volvulus, any method</td>
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<tr>
<td>45338</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by snare technique</td>
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<tr>
<td>45339</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) not amenable to removal by hot biopsy forceps, bipolar cautery or snare technique</td>
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<tr>
<td>45340</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with dilation by balloon, 1 or more strictures</td>
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<td>45341</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with endoscopic ultrasound examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>45342</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with transendoscopic ultrasound guided intramural or transmural fine needle aspiration/biopsy(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>45345</td>
<td>Sigmoidoscopy, flexible; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>45355</td>
<td>Colonoscopy, rigid or flexible, transabdominal via colotomy, single or multiple</td>
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<tr>
<td>45378</td>
<td>Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; diagnostic, with or without collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, with or without colon decompression (separate procedure)</td>
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<tr>
<td>45379</td>
<td>Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with removal of foreign body</td>
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<tr>
<td>45380</td>
<td>Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with biopsy, single or multiple</td>
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<tr>
<td>45381</td>
<td>Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with directed submucosal injection(s), any substance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45382</td>
<td>Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with control of bleeding (eg, injection, bipolar cautery, unipolar cautery, laser, heater probe, stapler, plasma coagulator)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45383</td>
<td>Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with ablation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) not amenable to removal by hot biopsy forceps, bipolar cautery or snare technique

45384 Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by hot biopsy forceps or bipolar cautery

45385 Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with removal of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s) by snare technique

45386 Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with dilation by balloon, 1 or more strictures

45387 Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with transendoscopic stent placement (includes predilation)

45391 Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with endoscopic ultrasound examination

45392 Colonoscopy, flexible, proximal to splenic flexure; with transendoscopic ultrasound guided intramural or transmural fine needle aspiration/biopsy(s)

HCPCS:

G0105 Colorectal cancer screening; colonoscopy on individual at high risk

G0106 Colorectal cancer screening; alternative to G0104, screening sigmoidoscopy, barium enema

G0120 Colorectal cancer screening; alternative to G0105, screening colonoscopy, barium enema

G0121 Colorectal cancer screening; colonoscopy on individual not meeting criteria for high risk

Policy History:

Developed December 10, 2008

Most recent history:
Reviewed November 10, 2010
Reviewed November 9, 2011
Revised January 9, 2013
Reviewed February 12, 2014

Cross Reference:

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