**Percutaneous Neuromodulation Therapy (PNT)**

**Published:** 08/01/2018  
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**Last Review:** 07/2018  
**Medicare Link(s) Revised:** 09/01/2018

**DESCRIPTION**

Percutaneous neuromodulation therapy (PNT) is an electrical stimulation therapy in which fine filament electrodes are temporarily placed in the deep tissues near the area causing pain. PNT differs from percutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (PENS) in the varying length of the needles and its placement which creates an electrical field that hyperpolarizes C-fibers, thus preventing action potential propagation along the pain pathway.

**MEDICARE ADVANTAGE POLICY CRITERIA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMS Coverage Manuals*</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Coverage Determinations (NCDs)*</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noridian Healthcare Solutions (Noridian) Local</td>
<td>Non-Covered Services (L35008) (“Percutaneous neuromodulation therapy” is listed as a “Group 1” service)</td>
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**Policy Guidelines**

**Regulatory Status**

Two devices have received clearance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) through the 510(k) process:

- The Percutaneous Neuromodulation Therapy™ (Vertis Neurosciences) system received approval to market in 2002.
- The Deepwave® Percutaneous Neuromodulation Pain Therapy System (Biowave Corp.) received approval in 2006, listing the Vertis Neuromodulation system and a Biowave TENS unit as predicate devices.

**Cross References**

- Biofeedback, Allied Health, Policy No. M-32
- Pulsed Electrical Stimulation for the Treatment of Arthritis, Durable Medical Equipment, Policy No. M-83.10
- Peripheral Nerve Stimulation (PNS) and Peripheral Nerve Field Stimulation (PNFS), Surgery, Policy No. M-205

**References**

None

**Coding**

**Note:** There are no specific codes for PENS or PNT. The correct CPT code to use for PENS and PNT is the unlisted CPT code 64999. CPT codes for percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrodes (i.e., 64553-64561, 64590) are not appropriate since PENS and PNT use percutaneously temporarily inserted needles and wires rather than percutaneously implanted electrodes that are left in place.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Codes</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>CPT</td>
<td>64999</td>
<td>Unlisted procedure, nervous system</td>
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<tr>
<td>HCPCS</td>
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*Important Note:* Medicare Advantage medical policies use the most current Medicare references available at the time the policy was developed. Links to Medicare references will take viewers to external websites outside of the health plan’s web control as these sites are not maintained by the health plan.