

## Quick Reference Guide on Precision™ Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS) System Procedure Documentation

- Step 1.** Document primary diagnosis and all applicable complications and co-morbidities.
- Step 2.** Document whether patient satisfies conditions for insurance coverage (e.g., see Medicare National Coverage Criteria).
- Step 3.** Be sure to document and code the following technological aspects of the SCS trial procedure:

	SCS Trial Procedure
SCS Devices Implanted	1 or 2 leads (electrode array)
	8 or 16 electrodes (contacts)
	Extensions (if applicable)
Programming	Complex programming: - Include length of time - Include patient-specific program parameters

- Step 4.** Document clinical patient outcomes of the SCS trial procedure, including the degree (in percentage or pain scale) of pain relief experienced and whether the trial was successful.
- Step 5.** Be sure to document and code the following technological aspects of the SCS permanent implant procedure:

	Permanent Implant with Percutaneous Lead Placement	Permanent Implant without Percutaneous Lead Placement <sup>1</sup>	Permanent Implant with Laminectomy Lead Placement
SCS Devices Implanted	1 or 2 leads (electrode array)	No leads implanted	1 lead (electrode array)
	8 or 16 electrodes (contacts)		16 electrodes (contacts)
		Dual array rechargeable implantable pulse generator	Dual array rechargeable implantable pulse generator
Programming	Complex programming: - Include length of time - Include patient specific program parameters	Complex programming: - Include length of time - Include patient specific program parameters	Complex programming: - Include length of time - Include patient specific program parameters

<sup>1</sup>This approach involves a “permanent trial” where no additional leads are implanted during the generator implant procedure

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## Medicare Conditions of Coverage for Spinal Cord Stimulation<sup>1</sup>

- The implantation of the stimulator is used only as a late resort (if not a last resort) for patients with chronic intractable pain.
- With respect to the above, other treatment modalities (pharmacological, surgical, physical, or psychological therapies) have been tried and did not prove satisfactory, or are judged to be unsuitable or contraindicated for the given patient.
- Patients have undergone careful screening, evaluation, and diagnosis by a multidisciplinary team prior to implantation. (Screening must include psychological, as well as physical evaluation.)
- All the facilities, equipment, and professional and support personnel required for the proper diagnosis, treatment training, and follow-up of the patient must be available.
- Demonstration of pain relief with a temporarily implanted electrode precedes permanent implantation.

<sup>1</sup> Medicare National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Electrical Nerve Stimulators (160.7) Publication Number 100-3, Manual Section Number 160.7, Benefit Category: Prosthetic Devices

### **Please contact Boston Scientific Neuromodulation if you need additional information:**

Pain Management Reimbursement Hotline  
Phone: (866) 287-0778 Monday – Friday  
5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time  
Fax: (877) 835-2520

[www.controlyourpain.com/reimbursement](http://www.controlyourpain.com/reimbursement)

Boston Scientific Corporation  
Neuromodulation  
25155 Rye Canyon Loop  
Valencia, CA 91355

[www.bostonscientific.com](http://www.bostonscientific.com)

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