



NOTICE TO PAYERS

New Category I Code for Transperineal Placement of Biodegradable Material in 2018

In July 1, 2016, temporary HCPCS C-code C9743 (injection/implantation of bulking or spacer material (any type) with or without image guidance, for Hospital Outpatient and ASC's only), was deleted and replaced by Category III code, 0438T. In 2017, a Category I CPT code was approved by CMS and assigned for the service. CPT Code 55874 became effective January 1, 2018:

CPT Code	DESCRIPTOR	CRITERIA FOR USE
55874	Transperineal placement of biodegradable material, peri-prostatic, single or multiple injection(s), including image guidance, when performed	Report for rectal placement of spacer gels.

Rectal spacer is a biodegradable gel material that can be inserted between the rectum and prostate. Randomized clinical trials have shown that the biodegradable gel material reduces toxicity for selected patients treated with radiotherapy for prostate cancer. ASTRO supports the clinical use of this and similar products in accordance with their FDA labeling.

ASTRO supports federal and private payer reimbursement for the procedure of rectal spacer gel placement and for the rectal spacer gel materials themselves.

Please contact Jessica Adams, Health Policy Analyst, at Jessica.Adams@astro.org, with any questions or related inquiries.