

## Percutaneous Tibial Nerve Stimulation (PTNS) Performed with the Urgent® PC Neuromodulation System Coding Guidelines

### PTNS Background

Percutaneous Tibial Nerve Stimulation (PTNS) was first introduced in February 2000. Urgent PC, the only FDA 510(k) cleared PTNS System to treat urinary urgency, frequency, and urge incontinence, was cleared under a 510(k) that required clinical data. It is not an investigational device. Since the introduction of Urgent PC, it is estimated that over 10,000 patients have been treated. In addition, the procedure has received wide adoption from the Medical Community with more than 500 physicians prescribing the procedure across the U.S.

### AMA & AUA Coding Recommendations

The American Urological Association (AUA) and the American Medical Association (AMA) suggest that PTNS be reported with CPT® code 64999 – unlisted procedure, nervous system. Contact your payers for appropriate billing instructions, billing requirements for either electronic or manual submission, and request a copy of all instructions in writing. Payers may request additional information such as the patient’s chart notes, a letter of medical necessity (LOMN), the equipment invoice, and the costs to perform the procedure. Sample letters, along with other tools, may be downloaded at [www.urgentpcreimbursement.com](http://www.urgentpcreimbursement.com).

### How Does a Payer Set the Payment Level for an Unlisted Code?

There are several ways in which a payer may determine payment such as the actual cost data from the provider, a crosswalk to another code of comparable value or a third party determination of costs.

#### Cost information

Some payers may request PTNS cost information of direct and indirect costs that includes labor, equipment, billing and administrative costs. A sample procedure cost assessment tool can be downloaded at [www.urgentpcreimbursement.com](http://www.urgentpcreimbursement.com). In accordance with payer recommendations, physicians may use this tool to calculate and submit cost data.

#### CPT Codes for Crosswalk Scenario

A crosswalk may be used to determine the appropriate level of payment for an unlisted code by comparing PTNS to a procedure described by a listed CPT® code. Physicians should select a procedure that is most comparable to PTNS in resource utilization. Whatever code is used for the crosswalk, the unlisted procedure code, 64999, should be reported unless instructed otherwise by your payer. Some payers may proactively establish payment rates for PTNS in their system when reported by the unlisted code to reflect what they have historically been paying. This would eliminate the need for a crosswalk each time the procedure is performed for payment.

### Sample CPT Codes for Crosswalk as Provided by Some PTNS Prescribers\*

*Note: the 2010 Fee Schedule will go into effect until March 1, 2010.*

CPT-4 Code <sup>1</sup>	Definition <sup>1</sup>	Work RVU <sup>2</sup>	Non-facility Practice Expense RVU <sup>3</sup>	PLI RVU <sup>2</sup>	Total non-facility RVU <sup>2</sup>
A familiar code:					
51703	Insertion of temporary indwelling bladder catheter, complicated	1.47	2.28	.11	3.86
A code you may have been billing for PTNS:					
64555	Percutaneous implantation of neurostimulator electrodes; peripheral nerve	2.32	2.94	.18	5.44

*\*The above CPT codes may not reflect every physician’s opinion of comparable resource utilization. Physicians should always follow the guidance and recommendations of their payer.*

## Additional Data

The Complete RBRVS by Relative Value Studies, Inc. contains the following RVUs for Urgent PC. For additional information visit [www.rvsdata.com](http://www.rvsdata.com) or call RVSI at 303.534.0506.

CPT-4 Code <sup>1</sup>	Definition <sup>1</sup>	Work RVU	Non-facility Practice Expense RVU	PLI RVU	Total non-facility RVU
64999	Unlisted procedure, nervous system	.6	4.04	.10	4.04

1. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) is a copyright 2008 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.
2. Medicare RBRVS: The Physician's Guide, 2010. Copyright American Medical Association.

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### Uroplasty, Inc.

Uroplasty Reimbursement Group  
5420 Feltl Road, Minnetonka, MN 55343 USA  
Toll free: 866 258 2182 (tel), 866 344 0219 (fax)  
e-mail: [reimbursement@uroplasty.com](mailto:reimbursement@uroplasty.com)

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