

Skin

C440–C449

(Except for M9727, 9733, 9741-9742, 9764-9809, 9832, 9840-9931, 9945-9946, 9950-9967, 9975-9992)

Codes

00 None; no surgery of primary site; autopsy ONLY

10 Local tumor destruction, NOS

11 Photodynamic therapy (PDT)

12 Electrocautery; fulguration (includes use of hot forceps for tumor destruction)

13 Cryosurgery

14 Laser ablation

No specimen sent to pathology from surgical events 10–14

20 Local tumor excision, NOS

26 Polypectomy

27 Excisional biopsy

Any combination of 20 or 26–27 WITH

21 Photodynamic therapy (PDT)

22 Electrocautery

23 Cryosurgery

24 Laser ablation

25 Laser excision

[**SEER Note:** Assign code 11 if there is no pathology specimen. Assign code 21 if there is a pathology specimen. Codes 20-27 include shave and wedge resection]

30 Biopsy of primary tumor followed by a gross excision of the lesion (does not have to be done under the same anesthesia)

31 Shave biopsy followed by a gross excision of the lesion

32 Punch biopsy followed by a gross excision of the lesion

33 Incisional biopsy followed by a gross excision of the lesion

34 Mohs surgery, NOS

[**SEER Note:** Assign code 34 for shave biopsy followed by MOHS surgery for melanoma of the skin.]

35 Mohs with 1-cm margin or less

36 Mohs with more than 1-cm margin

[**SEER Note:** Codes 30 to 35 include less than a wide excision, less than or equal to 1-cm margin, or status of margin is unknown. If it is stated to be a **wide excision** or **reexcision**, but the **margins are unknown**, code to 30.

Assign a surgery code from the 30-35 range when any margin is less than 1 cm.

Example: Melanoma: with surgical margins greater than 1 cm for length and width but less than 1 cm for depth. Assign a surgery code in the 30-35 range. Since tumor thickness is an important prognostic factor for cutaneous melanoma, the deep margin is of particular importance.

Use code 45 when there is a wide excision AND it is known that the margins of excision are greater than 1 cm.]

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- 45 Wide excision or reexcision of lesion or minor (local) amputation with margins more than 1 cm, NOS. Margins **MUST** be microscopically negative.
- 46 WITH margins more than 1 cm and less than or equal to 2 cm
- 47 WITH margins greater than 2 cm

If the excision does not have microscopically negative margins greater than 1 cm, use the appropriate code, 20-36.

[SEER Note: Assign code 47 for amputation of finger.
Example: Amputation of finger for subungual melanoma.]

- 60 Major amputation

Specimen sent to pathology from surgical events 20-60.

- 90 Surgery, NOS
- 99 Unknown if surgery performed; death certificate **ONLY**