

Surgery Codes

Skin C440–C449

(Except for M9732, 9741-9742, 9761-9809, 9820, 9826,
9831-9834, 9840-9920, 9931-9993)

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:** For Photodynamic therapy (PDT): 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.
 - Assign code 34 for Mohs surgery with unknown margins.]
 - 35 Mohs with 1-cm margin or less
 - 36 Mohs with more than 1-cm margin

[**SEER Note:** Assign code 35 for shave biopsy followed by Mohs with 1 cm margin or less. Assign code 36 for shave biopsy followed by Mohs with more than 1 cm margin.]

[SEER Note: Codes 30 to 35 include less than a wide excision and 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.]

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 or reexcision has microscopically negative margins less than 1 cm OR the margins are more than 1 cm but are not microscopically confirmed, 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