

Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection Medicare Billing Guide

Effective October 1, 2021, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has created the following new Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code to describe the endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD) procedure:¹

C9779 Endoscopic submucosal dissection (ESD), including endoscopy or colonoscopy, mucosal closure, when performed

For Medicare purposes, this code is available only for submission of claims by hospital outpatient departments and Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs). Other payers, including commercial payers and Medicaid, may allow the procedure to be reported using HCPCS code C9779, or unlisted Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)² code 45399 (Unlisted procedure, colon) may be used. Physicians may not use HCPCS code C9779 to report their professional services for the ESD procedure.

At this time, CMS has assigned HCPCS code C9779 to Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) 5313 (Level 3 Lower GI Procedures), with a national Medicare hospital outpatient department payment rate of \$2,443.39.³ HCPCS code C9779 is currently not identified as a payable service by Medicare when performed in the ASC setting.⁴ The APC assignment and not being payable in the ASC setting for HCPCS code C9779 is subject to change.

Disclaimer: Lumendi provides this billing guide for informational purposes only. This guide is not an affirmative instruction as to which codes and modifiers to use for a particular service, supply, procedure, or treatment, nor is it exhaustive. It is the provider's/facility's responsibility to determine and submit the appropriate codes and modifiers for any service, supply, procedure, or treatment rendered. Actual codes and/or modifiers used are at the sole discretion of the treating provider and/or facility. Contact your local payer for specific coding and coverage guidelines. Lumendi cannot guarantee medical benefit coverage or reimbursement with the codes listed in this guide. Information included in this material was obtained from third-party sources and is accurate as of the time of its publication but is subject to change without notice

¹ October 2021 Alpha-Numeric HCPCS File, CMS.gov, available at <https://www.cms.gov/files/zip/october-2021-alpha-numeric-hcpcs-file.zip-0>.

² CPT only copyright 2020 American Medical Association. All rights reserved. Applicable FARS/HHSARS apply.

³ OPPS Addendum B Update, October 2021, CMS.gov, available at <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/medicare-fee-service-payment/hospitaloutpatientpps/addendum-and-addendum-b-updates/october-2021-0>.

⁴ See October 2021 ASC Approved HCPCS Code and Payment Rates, CMS.gov, available at <https://www.cms.gov/apps/ama/license.asp?file=/files/zip/oct-2021-asc-approved-hcpcs-payment-rates.zip>.