

Operative notes for EXPAREL

Tips for appropriately documenting the use of EXPAREL

Proper documentation is essential for reimbursement. **Both anesthesiologists and surgeons must properly document use of EXPAREL to prevent denials or delays in reimbursement.**

The following example can help you to document key information to support timely reimbursement.

EXPAREL was administered on Date

at Time by Name and title of anesthesiologist or surgeon

as part of the patient's postsurgical analgesia

for Procedure.

It was administered Time of administration (preoperatively,

intraoperatively, postoperatively)

via Route/site of administration

using a dosage of Dosage.

EXPAREL was determined to be medically appropriate as part of the patient's postsurgical pain management plan based on Reasons

1 Date, name, and procedure:

- For a complete operative note, be sure to document the date and time of the procedure, the anesthesiologist or surgeon who administered EXPAREL, their respective title(s), and the type of surgery performed
- Keep in mind that even if EXPAREL use is documented in the anesthesiologist's notes, EXPAREL should also be documented as part of the surgeon's operative notes to support appropriate reimbursement

2 Time of administration:

- Time of administration should correlate with whether EXPAREL was provided via infiltration, field block, or as a nerve block

3 Route of administration*:

- Be sure to document how EXPAREL was administered, whether via surgical site infiltration, fascial plane infiltration for regional field blocks, interscalene brachial plexus nerve block, sciatic nerve block in the popliteal fossa, or adductor canal block, as well as the site of administration

4 Dosage:

- Note the amount of EXPAREL administered. Keep in mind that EXPAREL is available in 2 doses (133 mg and 266 mg) for adults, and dosage will vary based on method of administration and type of procedure
- For pediatric patients 6 to 17 years of age, dosing is weight based: 4 mg/kg (up to a maximum of 266 mg)
- Be sure to document EXPAREL using mg units to support appropriate reimbursement when using the permanent J-code J0666[†]

5 Reasons:

- To support medical necessity, document the rationale for providing EXPAREL, which may include relevant medical history, contraindications, patient desire or medical need for a non-opioid pain management approach, and need for longer-lasting pain management

Please note: This document is designed for guidance only. Each healthcare provider is ultimately responsible for appropriately documenting EXPAREL use.

*EXPAREL is indicated for use as an interscalene brachial plexus block, sciatic nerve block in the popliteal fossa, and adductor canal block only in adults.

[†]For procedures performed in hospital outpatient departments or ambulatory surgical centers using code J0666.

Please see Important Safety Information on the next page.

EXPAREL[®]
BUPIVACAINE LIPOSOME INJECTABLE SUSPENSION

EXPAREL Important Safety Information

Indication

EXPAREL® (bupivacaine liposome injectable suspension) is indicated to produce postsurgical local analgesia via infiltration in patients aged 6 years and older and regional analgesia in adults via an interscalene brachial plexus nerve block, sciatic nerve block in the popliteal fossa, and an adductor canal block. Safety and efficacy have not been established in other nerve blocks.

Important Safety Information

- EXPAREL is contraindicated in obstetrical paracervical block anesthesia.
- Adverse reactions reported in adults with an incidence greater than or equal to 10% following EXPAREL administration via infiltration were nausea, constipation, and vomiting; adverse reactions reported in adults with an incidence greater than or equal to 10% following EXPAREL administration via nerve block were nausea, pyrexia, headache, and constipation.
- Adverse reactions with an incidence greater than or equal to 10% following EXPAREL administration via infiltration in pediatric patients six to less than 17 years of age were nausea, vomiting, constipation, hypotension, anemia, muscle twitching, vision blurred, pruritus, and tachycardia.
- Do not admix lidocaine or other non-bupivacaine local anesthetics with EXPAREL. EXPAREL may be administered at least 20 minutes or more following local administration of lidocaine.
- EXPAREL is not recommended to be used in the following patient populations: patients <6 years old for infiltration, patients younger than 18 years old for nerve blocks, and/or pregnant patients.
- Because amide-type local anesthetics, such as bupivacaine, are metabolized by the liver, EXPAREL should be used cautiously in patients with hepatic disease.

Warnings and Precautions Specific to EXPAREL

- Avoid additional use of local anesthetics within 96 hours following administration of EXPAREL.
- EXPAREL is not recommended for the following types or routes of administration: epidural, intrathecal, regional nerve blocks **other than interscalene brachial plexus nerve block, sciatic nerve block in the popliteal fossa, and adductor canal block**, or intravascular or intra-articular use.
- The potential sensory and/or motor loss with EXPAREL is temporary and varies in degree and duration depending on the site of injection and dosage administered and may last for up to 5 days, as seen in clinical trials.

Warnings and Precautions for Bupivacaine-Containing Products

- **Central Nervous System (CNS) Reactions:** There have been reports of adverse neurologic reactions with the use of local anesthetics. These include persistent anesthesia and paresthesia. CNS reactions are characterized by excitation and/or depression.
- **Cardiovascular System Reactions:** Toxic blood concentrations depress cardiac conductivity and excitability, which may lead to dysrhythmias, sometimes leading to death.
- **Allergic Reactions:** Allergic-type reactions (eg, anaphylaxis and angioedema) are rare and may occur as a result of hypersensitivity to the local anesthetic or to other formulation ingredients.
- **Chondrolysis:** There have been reports of chondrolysis (mostly in the shoulder joint) following intra-articular infusion of local anesthetics, which is an unapproved use.
- **Methemoglobinemia:** Cases of methemoglobinemia have been reported with local anesthetic use.

For additional support, contact your EXPAREL Field Reimbursement Manager

Reference: 1. CMS.gov. Published October 10, 2024. Accessed April 25, 2025. <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/2024-hcpcs-application-summary-quarter-3-2024-drugs-and-biologicals-posted-10-02-2024.pdf>

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Full Prescribing Information is available at www.EXPARELpro.com.

For more information, please visit www.EXPARELpro.com or call 1-855-793-9727.

EXPAREL®
BUPIVACAINE LIPOSOME INJECTABLE SUSPENSION

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