



CULTURED EPIDERMAL AUTOGRAFTS (CEA) CPT CODING GUIDE

Select reimbursement codes associated with Epichel and the CEA procedure in burn treatment

CPT Process	CPT Code ¹	Description of Service	CPT Code Guide	Add Surgical Prep	Add CEA Application	Add CEA Product
Biopsy	15040	Harvest skin for tissue cultured autograft, 100 cm ² or less	Separate Service	NA	NA	NA
Surgical Preparation	15002	Surgical preparation or creation of recipient site by excision of open wounds, burn, eschar, or scar (including subcutaneous tissues), or incisional release of scar contracture, trunk, arms, legs; first 100 cm ² or 1% of body area of infants and children	Use in Conjunction	-	X	X
	+15003	Each additional 100 cm ² or each additional 1% of body area of infants and children		-	X	X
	15004	Surgical preparation or creation of recipient site by excision of open wounds, burn eschar, or scar (including subcutaneous tissues), or incisional release of scar contracture, face, scalp, eyelids, neck ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, feet and/or multiple digits; first 100 cm ² or 1% of body area of infants and children	Use in Conjunction	-	X	X
	+15005	Each additional 100 cm ² or each additional 1% of body area of infants and children		-	X	X
CEA Application	15150	Tissue cultured epidermal autograft, trunk, legs, arms: first 25 cm ² , or less	Use in Conjunction	X	-	X
	+15151	Additional 1 cm ² to 75 cm ²		X	-	X
	+15152	Each additional 100 cm ² , or each 1% BSA of infants and children		X	-	X
	15155	Tissue cultured epidermal autograft, face scalp, eyelids, mouth, neck, ear orbits, genitalia, hands, feet and/or multiple digits: first 25 cm ² or less	Use in Conjunction	X	-	X
	+15156	Additional 1 cm ² to 75 cm ²		X	-	X
	+15157	Each additional 100 cm ² , or each 1% BSA of infants and children		X	-	X
CEA Product	Q4100	Skin substitute, not otherwise specified	Needs Invoice	X	X	-

Surgical Prep Example	Surgical preparation of 125 cm ² on the right thigh and a 125 cm ² on the left thigh would be reported with 15002 for the first 100 cm ² and 15003 with 2 units for the remaining 150 cm ²
CEA Application Example	Tissue cultured epidermal graft: A 125 cm ² CEA graft on the right thigh and a 125 cm ² CEA graft on the left thigh would be reported with CPT code 15150 for the first 25 cm ² , 15151 for 75 cm ² and 15152 with 2 units for the remaining 150 cm ²
CEA Product	Q4100 is billed with 1 unit for every 1 cm ² . 125 cm ² on the right thigh and a 125 cm ² on the left thigh would be reported with Q4100 with 250 units

For more information please visit Epichel.com. For support please call **1-800-CEA-SKIN** (1-800-232-7546) or email support@epichelaccess.com.

Please note: This document is not intended to be a directive, nor is it a suggestion about the likelihood of obtaining reimbursement. This list is not all inclusive, and physician and staff may deem other codes more appropriate. Providers should select coding options that most accurately reflect a patient's condition, the provider's system guidelines, payor requirements and services rendered.

Humanitarian Device: Epichel (cultured epidermal autografts) is authorized for use in adults and pediatric patients who have deep dermal or full thickness burns comprising a total body surface area greater than or equal to 30%. It may be used in conjunction with split-thickness autografts, or alone in patients for whom split-thickness autografts may not be an option due to the severity and extent of their burns. The effectiveness of the device for this use has not been demonstrated.



Indication

Epicel® (cultured epidermal autografts) is indicated for use in adults and pediatric patients who have deep dermal or full thickness burns comprising a total body surface area greater than or equal to 30%. It may be used in conjunction with split-thickness autografts, or alone in patients for whom split-thickness autografts may not be an option due to the severity and extent of their burns.

Important Safety Information

Epicel is contraindicated in patients with a history of anaphylaxis following exposure to vancomycin, amikacin, and amphotericin, as trace quantities of these anti-infective agents may remain in the Epicel autograft. Epicel should not be used in patients with known sensitivities to materials of bovine or murine origin. It is contraindicated for use on clinically infected wounds.

Because Epicel is manufactured with and contains residual amounts of murine cells, FDA considers it a xenotransplantation product. Therefore, recipients should not donate whole blood, blood components, source plasma, source leukocytes, tissues, breast milk, ova, sperm, or other body parts for use in humans because there is a potential risk of carrying an infection that is transmitted from mouse cells to humans.

Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) has been reported in patients with burn injury after being grafted with Epicel. Although SCC is a known complication of burn scars, the role of Epicel in the causation of SCC cannot be excluded.

The Epicel product is intended solely for autologous use. Patients undergoing the surgical procedure associated with Epicel are not routinely tested for transmissible infectious diseases. Discontinue use if the patient shows evidence of allergic reaction.

If clinical signs of infection are present or develop, do not apply Epicel until the infection is adequately treated.

The effectiveness of Epicel has not been proven in clinical studies.

The long-term safety of Epicel is unknown. Over the past 27 years, the mortality from all causes was 13% before hospital discharge.

Men and women who intend to have children should be advised that the effects, if any, of Epicel on fetal development have not been assessed. In addition, the safety of Epicel has not been studied in pregnant and nursing women.

Patient information supplied by attending burn teams from 1989 to 1996 reported the adverse events of highest incidence as: death (13%), infection (13.8%), graft tear (7.8%) or graft blister (4.2%) and drainage (3.3%). Some of these events may have been due to the underlying burn injury and not the device itself.

From June 1998 through September, 2015 adverse events received by Genzyme Biosurgery (predecessor in interest to Vericel) and Vericel Corporation were similar to the previously identified adverse events. Events that were reported in $\geq 1\%$ of patients included multi-organ failure (6.6%), sepsis (5.2%) infection (4%) and skin graft failure/graft complication (2.7%). The relationship of these events to Epicel has not been established.

For more information, see Epicel [Directions for Use](#) and [Patient Information](#).



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