

Coding for Ultrasound Guidance in Obstetrics

The use of ultrasound to guide procedures in obstetrics is common. In addition to the relevant primary procedure code being performed, additional separate coding for ultrasound guidance, depending on the procedure type and setting, should be included and reflected in the documentation. The following codes and examples provide guidance on proper coding for ultrasound guidance in the obstetric and MFM setting:

Amniocentesis

76946 Ultrasound guidance for amniocentesis, imaging supervision and guidance

When submitting for reimbursement, please note you would also submit the 59000 code (for the actual amniocentesis) with the ultrasound guidance code

CVS

76945 Ultrasound guidance for CVS, imaging supervision and guidance

When submitting for reimbursement, please note you would also submit the 59015 code (for the actual CVS) with the ultrasound guidance code

Fetal transfusion or Cordocentesis

76941 Ultrasound guidance for fetal transfusion or cordocentesis, supervision and interpretation



Needle placement

76942 Ultrasonic guidance for needle placement (e.g., biopsy, aspiration, injection, localization device), imaging supervision and interpretation

Examples include: fetal intracardiac injection, intraamniotic injection

If ultrasound is performed intraoperative and/or no specific code exists, report:

Intraoperative guidance

76998 Ultrasound guidance, intraoperative

Examples: Guidance during ECV, cerclage, placement of cervical dilators, D&C, D&E

Alternative: 76999 unlisted ultrasound procedure (e.g., diagnostic, interventional).

For other procedures, ultrasound guidance may be included in the ultrasound code and should not be reported separately.

For example, the following fetal surgery codes include ultrasound guidance:

- **59070** Transabdominal amnioinfusion, including ultrasound guidance
- **59072** Fetal umbilical cord occlusion, including ultrasound guidance
- **59074** Fetal fluid drainage (e.g., vesicocentesis, thoracocentesis, paracentesis), including ultrasound guidance
- **59076** Fetal shunt placement, including ultrasound guidance
- **59897** Unlisted fetal invasive procedure, including ultrasound guidance

