PAYMENT POLICY ID NUMBER: 10-030

Original Effective Date: 05/14/10

Revised: 08/21/12

ROBOTIC ASSISTED SURGERY

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DESCRIPTION:

In robotic assisted surgery, ports (very small incisions) are used to place mechanical surgical tools within the body. The surgeon is positioned at a console, looking into a three dimensional magnified viewfinder, and performs the surgical procedure by looping fingers around controls on the console. These movements are translated to the robot “hands” inserted in the ports. The robot hands follow the movement of the surgeon (i.e. cutting, clamping and sewing) just as the surgeon would in an open procedure.

REIMBURSEMENT INFORMATION:

Robotic assisted surgery technique (S2900) is considered included in the primary surgical procedure and not separately reimbursable.

The use of an unlisted procedure code to indicate a robotically assisted procedure would be considered inappropriate billing. Use of the 22 Modifier (increased procedural services) would not be appropriate if the sole purpose is to report and bill for the use of robotic assistance. Modifier 22 should only be used to report unusual complications or complexities which occurred during the surgical procedure that are unrelated to the use of a robotic assistance system and must be supported by documentation.

BILLING/CODING INFORMATION:

The following codes may be used to describe:
HCPCS Coding/Modifiers:

| S2900 | Surgical techniques requiring use of robotic surgical system (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure) |

REFERENCES:


COMMITTEE APPROVAL:

This Payment Policy was approved by the Florida Blue Payment Policy Committee on 05/14/10.

GUIDELINE UPDATE INFORMATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/14/10</td>
<td>New payment policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/21/12</td>
<td>Revised- Changed name from BCBSF to Florida Blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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