



## NHS MEDICAL POLICY

### Seton Placement Procedure 2014-017

**Seton placement to treat an anorectal fistula may be indicated when any ONE of the following is present:**

1	The surgeon has determined that primary fistulotomy is not indicated or likely to be inadequate.
2	Medical management of the fistula has failed.
3	Fibrin glue or fistula plug has failed.
4	The fistula is complex (e.g. multiple tracts, recurrent, infectious, rectovaginal, suprasphincteric, anterior fistula in a woman, associated with radiation therapy, related to inflammatory bowel disease, associated with anal incontinence, involving 30 % or more of the anal sphincter).
5	Seton placement is part of a multi-stage management plan for the fistula.

### SOURCES

1. www.UpToDate.com was accessed Oct 31, 2014.
2. Hammond TM, Knowles CH, Porrett T, Lunniss PJ. The Snug Seton: short and medium term results of slow fistulotomy for idiopathic anal fistulae. *Colorectal Dis* 2006; 8:328.
3. Dziki A, Bartos M. Seton treatment of anal fistula: experience with a new modification. *Eur J Surg* 1998; 164:543.
4. Byrne, C, Solomon, M. The use of setons in fistula-in-ano. *Semin Colon Rectal Surg* 2009; 20:10.
5. Cox SW, Senagore AJ, Luchtefeld MA, Mazier WP. Outcome after incision and drainage with fistulotomy for ischiorectal abscess. *Am Surg* 1997; 63:686.
6. Vaizey CJ, Carapeti E, Cahill JA, Kamm MA. Prospective comparison of faecal incontinence grading systems. *Gut* 1999; 44:77.
7. Durgun V, Perek A, Kapan M, et al. Partial fistulotomy and modified cutting seton procedure in the treatment of high extrasphincteric perianal fistulae. *Dig Surg* 2002; 19:56.

8. Hämäläinen KP, Sainio AP. Cutting seton for anal fistulas: high risk of minor control defects. Dis Colon Rectum 1997; 40:1443.

**CODE REFERENCE** (This may not be a comprehensive list of codes to apply to this policy.)

CPT 46020

**POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION**

Date	Action/Description
09/25/2015	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/14/2016	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/12/2017	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/12/2018	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/12/2019	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/10/2020	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/10/2021	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
09/19/2022	Annual review and approval by UM Committee
08/23/2023	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee