



NHS MEDICAL POLICY

Skin Biopsy with Epidermal Nerve Fiber Density Determination Procedure 2016-004

Skin biopsy with epidermal nerve fiber density determination may be indicated when ALL the following are present:

1	The member has symptoms of painful sensory neuropathy.
2	The provider has documented that NONE of the following disorders are present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetic neuropathy • Toxic neuropathy • HIV neuropathy • Celiac neuropathy • Inherited neuropathy
3	The provider has documented that NONE of the following physical examination findings consistent with large-fiber neuropathy are present: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduced or absent muscle-stretch reflexes • reduced proprioception • reduced vibration sensation
4	The provider has documented that electromyography and nerve conduction studies are normal and show no evidence of large-fiber neuropathy.

SOURCES

1. Boruchow SA, Gibbons CH. Utility of skin biopsy in management of small fiber neuropathy. Muscle Nerve 2013; 48:877.
2. Devigili G, et al, The diagnostic criteria for small fibre neuropathy: from symptoms to neuropathology, Brain, 2008 Jul; 131(Pt 7):1912-25.

3. Lacomis D. Small-fiber neuropathy. Muscle Nerve 2002; 26:173.
4. Vlcková-Moravcová E, Bednarík J, Dusek L, et al. Diagnostic validity of epidermal nerve fiber densities in painful sensory neuropathies. Muscle Nerve 2008; 37:50.
5. UpToDate.com was accessed Sep 6, 2016: Skin biopsy for the evaluation of peripheral nerve disease

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

CPT 11100, 88305, 88314, 88341, 88342, 88344, 88356

POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

Date	Action/Description
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
08/24/2024	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee
06/27/2025	Annual review and approval by UM/QM Committee