

## GuidePoint

Simplifying Reimbursement



## Neuromodulation

Important: The following links to payer medical policies regarding Spinal Cord Stimulation (SCS) procedures are for informational purposes only. This guide is not necessarily a complete list of payers or related medical policies. Medical policy and criteria are updated by payer organizations periodically. Information included herein is current as of April 1, 2014, but is subject to change without notice. Contact the payer directly for complete information.

**Note: Covered indications and medical necessity criteria vary by payer policy. Always seek prior authorization and review the payer medical policy guidelines prior to scheduling SCS procedures.**

Payer Name	Link to Spinal Cord Stimulation Medical Policy
Aetna	<a href="http://www.aetna.com/cpb/medical/data/100_199/0194.html">http://www.aetna.com/cpb/medical/data/100_199/0194.html</a>
Amerihealth	<a href="http://medpolicy.amerhealth.com/policies/MPI.nsf/5ef0cff3e395df1b85257662006da832/85256aa800623d7a85257c47005ba578!OpenDocument&amp;Highlight=0,63685">http://medpolicy.amerhealth.com/policies/MPI.nsf/5ef0cff3e395df1b85257662006da832/85256aa800623d7a85257c47005ba578!OpenDocument&amp;Highlight=0,63685</a>
Avmed	<a href="http://www.avmed.org/pdf/unsecure/Providers/Tools/AvMed%20Coverage%20Guidelines/Guidelines%20for%20Implantable%20Infusion%20Pumps,%20Spinal%20Cord%20Stimulators%20&amp;%20Neuromuscular%20Stimulators.pdf">http://www.avmed.org/pdf/unsecure/Providers/Tools/AvMed%20Coverage%20Guidelines/Guidelines%20for%20Implantable%20Infusion%20Pumps,%20Spinal%20Cord%20Stimulators%20&amp;%20Neuromuscular%20Stimulators.pdf</a>
BCBS Alabama	<a href="https://www.bcbsal.org/providers/policies/final/328.pdf">https://www.bcbsal.org/providers/policies/final/328.pdf</a>
BCBS Anthem (1)	<a href="http://www.anthem.com/medicalpolicies/policies/mp_pw_a053357.htm">http://www.anthem.com/medicalpolicies/policies/mp_pw_a053357.htm</a>
BCBS Arizona	<a href="https://www.azblue.com/~media/azblue/files/healthcare/resources/medical%20coverage%20guidelines/surgery/o354.pdf">https://www.azblue.com/~media/azblue/files/healthcare/resources/medical%20coverage%20guidelines/surgery/o354.pdf</a>
BCBS Arkansas	<a href="http://www.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=1997208">http://www.arkansasbluecross.com/members/report.aspx?policyNumber=1997208</a>
BCBS Florida	<a href="http://mcgs.bcbsfl.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.main&amp;format=cfm&amp;doc=Spinal%20Cord%20Stimulation">http://mcgs.bcbsfl.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.main&amp;format=cfm&amp;doc=Spinal%20Cord%20Stimulation</a>
BCBS Hawaii HMSA	<a href="http://www.hmsa.com/portal/provider/MM.06.013_Spinal_Cord_Stimulators_for_Pain_Management_092713.pdf">http://www.hmsa.com/portal/provider/MM.06.013_Spinal_Cord_Stimulators_for_Pain_Management_092713.pdf</a>
BCBS HCSC (IL, NM, OK, TX) (2)	<a href="http://www.medicalpolicy.hcsc.net/medicalpolicy/activePolicyPage?lid=ht6gje0w&amp;corpEntCd=IL1">http://www.medicalpolicy.hcsc.net/medicalpolicy/activePolicyPage?lid=ht6gje0w&amp;corpEntCd=IL1</a> <i>Click on Active Policies and search on 'Spinal Cord Stim'</i>
BCBS Highmark DE	<a href="https://secure.highmark.com/ldap/medicalpolicy/delaware-commercial-medical-policy/Z-7-003.html">https://secure.highmark.com/ldap/medicalpolicy/delaware-commercial-medical-policy/Z-7-003.html</a>
BCBS Highmark PA	<a href="https://secure.highmark.com/ldap/medicalpolicy/wpa-highmark/Z-7-029.html">https://secure.highmark.com/ldap/medicalpolicy/wpa-highmark/Z-7-029.html</a>
BCBS Highmark WV	<a href="https://www.highmarkbcbswv.com/west-virginia-commercial-medical-policy/Z-7-023.html">https://www.highmarkbcbswv.com/west-virginia-commercial-medical-policy/Z-7-023.html</a>
BCBS Idaho	<a href="https://www.bcidaho.com/providers/medical_policies/sur/mp_70125.asp">https://www.bcidaho.com/providers/medical_policies/sur/mp_70125.asp</a>
BCBS Kansas	<a href="http://www.bcbsks.com/CustomService/Providers/MedicalPolicies/policies/policies/SpinalCordStimulation_2013-04-26.pdf">http://www.bcbsks.com/CustomService/Providers/MedicalPolicies/policies/policies/SpinalCordStimulation_2013-04-26.pdf</a>
BCBS Kansas City	<a href="https://www.bcbskc.com/Public/Uploads/Medical_Policies/Surgery/10-13_7_Spinal_Cord_Stimulation.pdf">https://www.bcbskc.com/Public/Uploads/Medical_Policies/Surgery/10-13_7_Spinal_Cord_Stimulation.pdf</a>
BCBS Louisiana	<a href="http://www.bcbsla.com/MedicalPolicies/0026020130821SpinalCordStimulation_12197.pdf">http://www.bcbsla.com/MedicalPolicies/0026020130821SpinalCordStimulation_12197.pdf</a>
BCBS Massachusetts	<a href="http://www.bluecrossma.com/common/en_US/medical_policies/472%20Spinal%20Cord%20Stimulation%20prn.pdf">http://www.bluecrossma.com/common/en_US/medical_policies/472%20Spinal%20Cord%20Stimulation%20prn.pdf</a>
BCBS Michigan	<a href="http://www.bcbsm.com/mprApp/MedicalPolicyDocument?fileId=91845">http://www.bcbsm.com/mprApp/MedicalPolicyDocument?fileId=91845</a>
BCBS Minnesota	<a href="http://notes.bluecrossmn.com/web/medpolman.nsf/8178b1c14b1e9b6b8525624f0062fe9f/b034d87c3e8905bd862567fc008127ff/\$FILE/Spinal%20Cord%20Stimulation.pdf">http://notes.bluecrossmn.com/web/medpolman.nsf/8178b1c14b1e9b6b8525624f0062fe9f/b034d87c3e8905bd862567fc008127ff/\$FILE/Spinal%20Cord%20Stimulation.pdf</a>
Payer Name	Link to Spinal Cord Stimulation Medical Policy

BCBS Mississippi	<a href="http://www.bcbsms.com/index.php?q=provider-medical-policy-search.html&amp;action=viewPolicy&amp;path=policy%2Ffemed%2FSpinal_Cord_Stimulation.html">http://www.bcbsms.com/index.php?q=provider-medical-policy-search.html&amp;action=viewPolicy&amp;path=policy%2Ffemed%2FSpinal_Cord_Stimulation.html</a>
BCBS Montana	<a href="https://www.bcbsmt.com/MedReview/Policies/SpinalCordStimulation/v103.aspx">https://www.bcbsmt.com/MedReview/Policies/SpinalCordStimulation/v103.aspx</a>
BCBS Nebraska	<a href="https://medicalpolicy.nebraskablue.com/Home/ViewPolicy?PolicyNumber=1.105">https://medicalpolicy.nebraskablue.com/Home/ViewPolicy?PolicyNumber=1.105</a>
BCBS New Jersey Horizon	<a href="https://services3.horizon-bcbsnj.com/hcm/MedPol2.nsf/MedicalPolicies/TKEN-6RP5D8">https://services3.horizon-bcbsnj.com/hcm/MedPol2.nsf/MedicalPolicies/TKEN-6RP5D8</a>
BCBS New York Empire	<a href="http://www.empireblue.com/medicalpolicies/policies/mp_pw_a053357.htm">http://www.empireblue.com/medicalpolicies/policies/mp_pw_a053357.htm</a>
BCBS New York-Excellus	<a href="https://www.excellusbcbs.com/wps/wcm/connect/b50f05b7-7917-4191-8dd4-76f298238710/mp+spin_cord_stim+tac+13.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&amp;CACHEID=b50f05b7-7917-4191-8dd4-76f298238710">https://www.excellusbcbs.com/wps/wcm/connect/b50f05b7-7917-4191-8dd4-76f298238710/mp+spin_cord_stim+tac+13.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&amp;CACHEID=b50f05b7-7917-4191-8dd4-76f298238710</a>
BS New York-NE	<a href="https://securews.bsny.com/web/content/dam/COMMON/Provider/Protocols/S/prov_prot_70125.pdf">https://securews.bsny.com/web/content/dam/COMMON/Provider/Protocols/S/prov_prot_70125.pdf</a>
BCBS New York-W	<a href="https://securews.bcbswny.com/web/content/dam/COMMON/Provider/Protocols/S/prov_prot_70125.pdf">https://securews.bcbswny.com/web/content/dam/COMMON/Provider/Protocols/S/prov_prot_70125.pdf</a>
BCBS North Carolina	<a href="http://www.bcbsnc.com/assets/services/public/pdfs/medicalpolicy/spinal_cord_stimulation.pdf">http://www.bcbsnc.com/assets/services/public/pdfs/medicalpolicy/spinal_cord_stimulation.pdf</a>
BCBS North Carolina-Medicare	<a href="http://www.bcbsnc.com/assets/services/public/pdfs/bluemedicare/medicalpolicy/electrical_stim_spinal_cord.pdf">http://www.bcbsnc.com/assets/services/public/pdfs/bluemedicare/medicalpolicy/electrical_stim_spinal_cord.pdf</a>
BCBS North Dakota	<a href="https://bb.thor.org/Bulletins/Blue_Cross_Blue_Shield_ND_Medical_Policy/Spinal_Cord_Stimulation_for_Pain.htm">https://bb.thor.org/Bulletins/Blue_Cross_Blue_Shield_ND_Medical_Policy/Spinal_Cord_Stimulation_for_Pain.htm</a>
BC PA Capital	<a href="https://www.capbluecross.com/wps/wcm/connect/4b6d616c-8c26-4647-83dd-c715ed5bd28a/SpinalCordStimulation-MP-1.069-9-24-13.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&amp;attachment=true&amp;CACHE=NONE&amp;CONTENTCACHE=NONE">https://www.capbluecross.com/wps/wcm/connect/4b6d616c-8c26-4647-83dd-c715ed5bd28a/SpinalCordStimulation-MP-1.069-9-24-13.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&amp;attachment=true&amp;CACHE=NONE&amp;CONTENTCACHE=NONE</a>
BC PA Independence	<a href="http://medpolicy.ibx.com/policies/MPI.nsf/6eeddf656d983ec98525695e0068df68/85256aa800623d7a85257c47005ba578">http://medpolicy.ibx.com/policies/MPI.nsf/6eeddf656d983ec98525695e0068df68/85256aa800623d7a85257c47005ba578</a>
BC PA Northeastern	<a href="https://www.bcnepa.com/Providers/providerrelations/PolicyFile.ashx?id=1811">https://www.bcnepa.com/Providers/providerrelations/PolicyFile.ashx?id=1811</a>
BC Premera (AK, WA)	<a href="https://www.premera.com/medicalpolicies/CMI_003695.htm">https://www.premera.com/medicalpolicies/CMI_003695.htm</a>
BCBS Rhode Island	<a href="https://www.bcbsri.com/sites/default/files/polices/SpinalCordSimulation.pdf">https://www.bcbsri.com/sites/default/files/polices/SpinalCordSimulation.pdf</a>
BCBS South Carolina	<a href="http://www.cam-policies.com/internet/cmpd/cmp/mdclplcy.nsf/DispContent/A4BB5C05CE571BA285257177004C002C?opendocument">http://www.cam-policies.com/internet/cmpd/cmp/mdclplcy.nsf/DispContent/A4BB5C05CE571BA285257177004C002C?opendocument</a> <i>Accept disclosure statement and scroll to click on "Spinal Cord Stimulation"</i>
BCBS Tennessee	<a href="http://www.bcbst.com/mpmanual/spinal_cord_stimulation_for_treatment_of_pain.htm">http://www.bcbst.com/mpmanual/spinal_cord_stimulation_for_treatment_of_pain.htm</a>
BCBS Vermont	<a href="http://www.bcbsvt.com/wps/wcm/connect/32189109-361b-4ff5-b820-95ef538df959/Medical_Equipment_DME_Prosthetics_and_Orthotics.pdf?MOD=AJPERES">http://www.bcbsvt.com/wps/wcm/connect/32189109-361b-4ff5-b820-95ef538df959/Medical_Equipment_DME_Prosthetics_and_Orthotics.pdf?MOD=AJPERES</a>
BCBS Wellmark (IA, SD)	<a href="http://www.wellmark.com/Provider/MedPoliciesAndAuthorizations/MedicalPolicies/policies/Spinal_Cord_Stimulation.aspx">http://www.wellmark.com/Provider/MedPoliciesAndAuthorizations/MedicalPolicies/policies/Spinal_Cord_Stimulation.aspx</a>
BCBS Wyoming	<a href="https://bb.thor.org/Bulletins/Blue_Cross_Blue_Shield_WY_Medical_Policy/Spinal_Cord_Stimulation.htm">https://bb.thor.org/Bulletins/Blue_Cross_Blue_Shield_WY_Medical_Policy/Spinal_Cord_Stimulation.htm</a>
Blue Shield California	<a href="https://www.blueshieldca.com/provider/authorizations/clinical-policies/medical-procedures/policy.sp">https://www.blueshieldca.com/provider/authorizations/clinical-policies/medical-procedures/policy.sp</a> <i>Scroll to click on "Spinal Cord Stimulation" – requires Adobe Reader 9 or Adobe Acrobat</i>
Blue Shield Regence (WA, ID, OR, UT)	<a href="http://blue.regence.com/trgmedpol/surgery/sur45.pdf">http://blue.regence.com/trgmedpol/surgery/sur45.pdf</a>
Cigna	<a href="https://cignaforhcp.cigna.com/public/content/pdf/coveragePolicies/medical/mm_0380_coveragepositioncriteria_spinal_cord_stimulation.pdf">https://cignaforhcp.cigna.com/public/content/pdf/coveragePolicies/medical/mm_0380_coveragepositioncriteria_spinal_cord_stimulation.pdf</a>
Federal Employee Program (FEP) - BCBS	<a href="http://www.fepblue.org/downloads/medical_policies_2013/7_01_25_Spinal_Cord_Stimulation.pdf">http://www.fepblue.org/downloads/medical_policies_2013/7_01_25_Spinal_Cord_Stimulation.pdf</a>
Group Health Cooperative	<a href="http://www.ghc.org/all-sites/clinical/criteria/pdf/spinal_cord_stimulator_for_pain.pdf">http://www.ghc.org/all-sites/clinical/criteria/pdf/spinal_cord_stimulator_for_pain.pdf</a>

Payer Name	Link to Spinal Cord Stimulation Medical Policy
Harvard Pilgrim	<a href="https://www.harvardpilgrim.org/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/PROVIDERS/MEDMGMT/STATEMENTS/SPINAL_CORD_STIM_PAIN_0113.PDF">https://www.harvardpilgrim.org/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/PROVIDERS/MEDMGMT/STATEMENTS/SPINAL_CORD_STIM_PAIN_0113.PDF</a>
Health Net	<a href="https://www.healthnet.com/static/general/unprotected/pdfs/national/policies/DorsalColumnStimulators.pdf">https://www.healthnet.com/static/general/unprotected/pdfs/national/policies/DorsalColumnStimulators.pdf</a>
Health Partners	<a href="http://www.healthpartners.com/public/coverage-criteria/scs/">http://www.healthpartners.com/public/coverage-criteria/scs/</a>
Humana	<a href="http://apps.humana.com/tad/tad_new/Search.aspx?searchtype=beginswith&amp;docbegin=S&amp;policyType=medical">http://apps.humana.com/tad/tad_new/Search.aspx?searchtype=beginswith&amp;docbegin=S&amp;policyType=medical</a> <i>Click on "Spinal Cord Stimulators"</i>
Medica Health	<a href="https://www.medica.com/~media/Documents/Provider/Implanted%20Spinal%20Cord%20Stim%20for%20Chronic%20Pain.pdf">https://www.medica.com/~media/Documents/Provider/Implanted%20Spinal%20Cord%20Stim%20for%20Chronic%20Pain.pdf</a>
Medicare – Noridian (So. Ca)	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=33489&amp;ContrId=281&amp;ver=10&amp;ContrVer=2&amp;CoverageSelection=Both&amp;ArticleType=All&amp;PolicyType=Final&amp;s=All&amp;CptHcpcsCode=63685&amp;bc=gAAAABAAAAAAAA%3d%3d&amp;">http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=33489&amp;ContrId=281&amp;ver=10&amp;ContrVer=2&amp;CoverageSelection=Both&amp;ArticleType=All&amp;PolicyType=Final&amp;s=All&amp;CptHcpcsCode=63685&amp;bc=gAAAABAAAAAAAA%3d%3d&amp;</a> <i>Scroll to bottom of screen, click "Accept" to access "Spinal Cord Stimulation" Guide</i>
Medicare – Novitas (AR, CO, LA, MS, NM, OK, TX)	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=32753&amp;ContrId=262&amp;ver=17&amp;ContrVer=1&amp;CoverageSelection=Both&amp;ArticleType=All&amp;PolicyType=Final&amp;s=All&amp;Keyword=spinal+cord+stimulation&amp;KeywordLookup=Title&amp;KeywordSearchType=And&amp;bc=gAAAABAAAAAAAA%3d%3d&amp;">http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=32753&amp;ContrId=262&amp;ver=17&amp;ContrVer=1&amp;CoverageSelection=Both&amp;ArticleType=All&amp;PolicyType=Final&amp;s=All&amp;Keyword=spinal+cord+stimulation&amp;KeywordLookup=Title&amp;KeywordSearchType=And&amp;bc=gAAAABAAAAAAAA%3d%3d&amp;</a>
Medicare – Palmetto (NC)	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=32549&amp;ContrId=233&amp;ver=8&amp;ContrVer=1&amp;CoverageSelection=Both&amp;ArticleType=All&amp;PolicyType=Final&amp;s=All&amp;CptHcpcsCode=63685&amp;bc=gAAAABAAAAAAAA%3d%3d&amp;">http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/lcd-details.aspx?LCDId=32549&amp;ContrId=233&amp;ver=8&amp;ContrVer=1&amp;CoverageSelection=Both&amp;ArticleType=All&amp;PolicyType=Final&amp;s=All&amp;CptHcpcsCode=63685&amp;bc=gAAAABAAAAAAAA%3d%3d&amp;</a>
Medicare National Coverage Determination (NCD 160.7)	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=240&amp;ncdver=1&amp;CoverageSelection=Both&amp;ArticleType=All&amp;PolicyType=Final&amp;s=All&amp;Keyword=electrical+nerve+stim&amp;KeywordLookup=Title&amp;KeywordSearchType=And&amp;bc=gAAAABAAAAAAAA%3d%3d&amp;">http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=240&amp;ncdver=1&amp;CoverageSelection=Both&amp;ArticleType=All&amp;PolicyType=Final&amp;s=All&amp;Keyword=electrical+nerve+stim&amp;KeywordLookup=Title&amp;KeywordSearchType=And&amp;bc=gAAAABAAAAAAAA%3d%3d&amp;</a>
Tricare	<a href="http://manuals.tricare.osd.mil/DisplayManual.aspx?SeriesId=T3TPM">http://manuals.tricare.osd.mil/DisplayManual.aspx?SeriesId=T3TPM</a> <b>TRICARE Policy Manual 6010.57-M, February 1, 2008</b> <i>Chapter 4 Section 20.1 Nervous System</i>
Tufts Health Plan	<a href="http://www.tuftshealthplan.com/providers/pdf/mng/spinal_cord_stim.pdf">http://www.tuftshealthplan.com/providers/pdf/mng/spinal_cord_stim.pdf</a>
Unicare	<a href="http://www.unicare.com/medicalpolicies/policies/mp_pw_a053357.htm">http://www.unicare.com/medicalpolicies/policies/mp_pw_a053357.htm</a>
United Healthcare (UHC)	<a href="https://www.unitedhealthcareonline.com/ccmcontent/ProviderII/UHC/en-US/Assets/ProviderStaticFiles/ProviderStaticFilesPdf/Tools%20and%20Resources/Policies%20and%20Protocols/Medical%20Policies/Medical%20Policies/Implanted_Electrical_Stimulator_for_Spinal_Cord.pdf">https://www.unitedhealthcareonline.com/ccmcontent/ProviderII/UHC/en-US/Assets/ProviderStaticFiles/ProviderStaticFilesPdf/Tools%20and%20Resources/Policies%20and%20Protocols/Medical%20Policies/Medical%20Policies/Implanted_Electrical_Stimulator_for_Spinal_Cord.pdf</a>
United Healthcare (UHC) - Medicare	<a href="http://www.unitedhealthcareonline.com/ccmcontent/ProviderII/UHC/en-US/Assets/ProviderStaticFiles/ProviderStaticFilesPdf/Tools%20and%20Resources/Policies%20and%20Protocols/UnitedHealthcare%20Medicare%20Coverage/Stimulators_ElectSpinal_UHCMA_CS.pdf">http://www.unitedhealthcareonline.com/ccmcontent/ProviderII/UHC/en-US/Assets/ProviderStaticFiles/ProviderStaticFilesPdf/Tools%20and%20Resources/Policies%20and%20Protocols/UnitedHealthcare%20Medicare%20Coverage/Stimulators_ElectSpinal_UHCMA_CS.pdf</a>
Wellcare	<a href="http://www.wellcare.com/WCAssets/corporate/assets/HS115_Spinal_Cord_Stimulation_Implant.pdf">http://www.wellcare.com/WCAssets/corporate/assets/HS115_Spinal_Cord_Stimulation_Implant.pdf</a>

Precision Plus and Precision Spectra Spinal Cord Stimulator System Indication for Use:

The PRECISION PLUS Spinal Cord Stimulator (SCS) System and the PRECISION SPECTRA Spinal Cord Stimulator (SCS) System are indicated as an aid in the management of chronic intractable pain of the trunk and/ or limbs, including unilateral or bilateral pain associated with the following: failed back surgery syndrome, intractable low back pain, and leg pain.

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**Pain Management Reimbursement Hotline - Phone: (866) 287-0778 Monday – Friday 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time - Fax: (877) 835-2520**

1 Anthem plans utilize the same SCS medical policy SURG.00060. Anthem Plans: (BCBS) CO, CT, IN, KT, ME, MS, NV, NH, OH, Parts of VA, BC of CA

2 Plans HCSC: BCBS of IL, BCBS of NM, BCBS of OK and BCBS of TX plans utilize same medical policies