

LUMBAR PUNCTURE  
UPDATED: JULY 2007

CPT CODE: N/A

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**PRE-PROCEDURE:** Informed consent should be supplied by the referring physician, but Nuclear Medicine (NM) should confirm that the patient knows we are to do the lumbar puncture (LP) and describe the imaging protocol.

**PROCEDURE NOTE:** Post-procedure note should include:

1. That verbal informed consent was obtained.
2. Position of patient
3. Vertebral interspace used
4. Number of attempts
5. Opening pressure
6. Amount of cerebral-spinal fluid removed and radiopharmaceutical administered.
7. Condition of patient after the procedure
8. Name (legible) of clinician performing procedure

If difficulty occurs in successfully performing the LP, then Special Procedures should be contacted to perform the LP under fluoroscopy.

**POST-PROCEDURE:** If requested by the patient's referring physician, NM will supply the tubes of CSF. If any immediate neurological change occurs the referring physician should be informed, and the patient returned to the ward. On delayed imaging, the condition of the patient should be noted and documented in the NM report.

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Reviewed By: S. Perlman, D. Fuerbringer

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Scott B. Perlman, MD, MS  
Chief, Nuclear Medicine

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Derek Fuerbringer, CNMT  
Manager, Nuclear Medicine