

Wyoming Workers' Safety and Compensation
Pre-surgical Psychological Evaluations
Report Guidelines

Pre-surgical psychological evaluations before spine surgery or surgery of an implantable device such as a spinal cord stimulator or pain pump may be ordered to identify psychosocial issues that may complicate outcomes and provide recommendations for the surgeon in how to improve these potential problems. The pre-surgical psychological evaluation is limited in scope to the surgical procedure only.

These guidelines are simply intended to provide a basic overview of the elements for correctly coding and documenting findings for licensed psychologists or psychiatrists who complete pre-surgical evaluations.

General information:

1. A qualified, licensed psychologist or psychiatrist must perform the pre-surgical evaluation.
2. The Division may request credentials to determine qualifications.
3. Timeframe to complete the report: Two weeks' from time completion of the face-to-face evaluation.
4. Please back up the rationale and factors to support the recommendation in your notes.
5. The Division will not direct what testing is necessary; it is at the discretion of the evaluator, to administer objective scientific validated tests and or instruments for the examination. Methods of evaluation should be listed in the report.
6. If the evaluator identifies any issues, please expand the report, the report length should reflect the details.
7. If the evaluator needs any additional records, contact the Division for copies.
8. Evaluator should contact the nurse case manager as needed for clinical questions.

Billing codes to use:

- 90801-Psychiatric diagnostic interview examination.
- 96101-Psychological testing, per hour of the psychologist's or physician's time, both face-to-face time administering tests to the patient and time interpreting these test results and preparing the report.
- 90887-Interpretation or explanation of results of psychiatric, other medical examinations and procedures, or other accumulated data to family or other responsible persons, or advising them how to assist patient.
- 90889-Preparation of report of patient's psychiatric status, history, treatment, or progress (other than for legal or consultative purposes) for other physicians, agencies, or insurance carriers.

- 90899-Unlisted psychiatric service or procedure.
- The licensed psychologist or psychiatrist can use other codes with appropriate documentation in the report to support the code and charge. Pre-surgical psyche eval 201/2011

Average hours for the evaluation:

- 4-6 hours.

Sample report format:

- It is recommended the licensed psychologist or psychiatrist use the following report format; however, it is not required.

Report of Psychological Evaluation

Evaluation Procedures:

Referral and Background Information:

Including referral source, purpose and scope of evaluation, and proposed medical procedure. Information regarding previous treatments, outcomes, and current medications.

Claimant Complaints:

Findings:

Mental Status:

Psychiatric Problems:

Coping Style:

Stress Management:

Treatment Prognosis:

Management Issues:

Diagnostic Impressions:

Axis I:

Axis II:

Axis III:

Axis IV:

Axis V:

Psychosocial Risk Factors

- Job Dissatisfaction
- Workers' Compensation
- Litigation
- Spousal Solicitousness
- No Spousal Support
- Abuse/Abandonment
- Substance Abuse
- History of Psychiatric Disturbance
- Pain Sensitivity
- Depression (Reactive)
- Anger
- Anxiety
- Depressed-pathological profile

Recommendations: (Limited in scope to the requested surgical procedure only)

1. Name of procedure—Overall, Mr. or Ms. Name of claimant's psychological suitability for a Name of procedure was judged to be:

- Excellent
- Good
- Poor

2. Brief discussion of claimant's expectations for success of the procedure and pain relief:

Complicating issues:

Name of licensed psychologist or psychiatrist completing report

Copy to: Wyoming Workers' Safety & Compensation

Name of Surgeon