

Chapter 17 – Interventional radiology

Many therapeutic procedures also require a diagnostic procedure – for example, an angioplasty cannot be performed without an angiography as well. As these diagnostic procedures are part and parcel of the therapeutic procedure, we will not pay additional fees charged for these diagnostic procedures unless a separate and distinct procedure took place.

We will not normally reimburse standby fees for interventional radiology procedures. If it is felt to be clinically necessary to have a surgeon on standby, you must contact the Freedom Health Insurance claims helpline and provide a full medical report to explain why this is necessary.

The code and narrative for all interventional radiology procedures includes imaging guidance by one of x-ray, CT/MRI, fluoroscopy or ultrasound.

If a vascular procedure is jointly carried out by a surgeon and interventional radiologist, then the fee should be split between the two specialists. Separate charges should not be made.

Last updated: October 2024.

17.1 Biopsy

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
B2890	Ultrasound guided interstitial laser ablation of breast lesion	Intermediate	£450.00	£213.00
XR100	Fluoroscopically guided biopsy(ies)	Intermediate	£250.00	£142.00
XR110	Ultrasound guided biopsy(ies)	Intermediate	£150.00	£142.00
XR120	CT/MRI guided biopsy(ies)	Intermediate	£320.00	£142.00
XR121	Image guided vacuum assisted excision biopsy of breast lesions	Intermediate	£320.00	£142.00
XR130	Transjugular/transfemoral plugged liver biopsy(ies)	Intermediate	£420.00	£142.00
XR140	Unilateral stereotactic core biopsy breast	Intermediate	£320.00	£142.00
XR142	Bilateral stereotactic core biopsy of breasts	Intermediate	£300.00	£213.00
XR160	Percutaneous image guided fine needle aspiration(s) (FNA) – unilateral	Minor	£100.00	£0.00
XR161	Percutaneous image guided fine needle aspiration(s) (FNA) – bilateral	Minor	£150.00	£0.00

17.2 Drainage

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR170	Fluoroscopically guided drainage of fluid collection	Intermediate	£250.00	£142.00
XR180	Ultrasound guided drainage of fluid collection	Intermediate	£300.00	£0.00
XR190	CT/MRI guided drainage of fluid collection	Major	£450.00	£142.00

17.3 Angioplasty

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR252	Venoplasty	Major	£500.00	£0.00
XR254	Angioplasty of other arteries (e.g. sub-clavian, tibial, femoro-popliteal) including peripheral angiogram +/- insertion of stent	Major	£500.00	£285.00
XR260	Angioplasty with insertion of metallic stent	Major	£550.00	£357.00
XR270	Angioplasty with insertion of metallic stent – graft	Major	£550.00	£357.00
XR280	Insertion of aortic metallic stent – graft	Complex	£1,300.00	£642.00
XR290	Cerebral angioplasty with or without insertion of metallic stent	Complex	£1,300.00	£499.00
XR430	Renal angioplasty, +/- insertion of stent	Major	£500.00	£285.00
XR516	Angioplasty of iliac artery, +/- insertion of stent	Major	£500.00	£285.00

17.4 Embolisation

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR302	Endovascular management of brain arteriovenous malformation (including 2 separate interventions)	Complex	£1,900.00	£857.00
XR303	Additional management of brain arteriovenous malformation (per additional intervention)	Minor	£1,900.00	£857.00
XR306	Endovascular treatment of cerebral aneurysm	Xmajor	£1,600.00	£857.00
XR352	Embolisation of artery/vein	Major	£550.00	£213.00
XR360	Embolisation of vascular mass (including uterine embolisation)	Complex	£900.00	£499.00
XR361	Prostate artery embolisation	Major	£500.00	£0.00
XR362	Embolisation of pelvic vein varices	Major	£500.00	£324.00
XR363	Portal vein embolisation (as sole procedure)	Complex	£900.00	£499.00
XR370	Embolisation of bronchial artery	Complex	£1,000.00	£0.00
XR380	Embolisation of aneurysm	Complex	£1,100.00	£857.00
XR391	Embolisation of arteriovenous malformation (AVM) e.g. of foot, minor organ	Major	£550.00	£291.00
XR442	Embolisation of varicocele of gonadal vein	Major	£550.00	£285.00
XR951	Ultrasound-guided compression repair of aneurysm (including pseudoaneurysm)	Intermediate	£410.00	£0.00

17.5 Thrombolysis

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR410	Thrombolysis or aspiration of thrombus under imaging control	Intermediate	£400.00	£213.00

17.6 Dilatation

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR450	Dilatation of stricture under imaging control	Intermediate	£360.00	£213.00
XR565	Percutaneous dilatation of biliary stricture under imaging control	Xmajor	£650.00	£428.00

17.7 Head and neck

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR315	Endoluminal stone extraction from salivary duct under imaging control	Intermediate	£200.00	£0.00
XR320	Dilatation/stenting of nasolacrimal duct under imaging control	Major	£550.00	£0.00

17.8 Spine

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR500	Chemoneucleolysis	Intermediate	£350.00	£0.00
XR510	Fluoroscopically guided discectomy (including laser)	Major	£650.00	£324.00
XR530	Fluoroscopically guided percutaneous vertebroplasty	Major	£650.00	£428.00
XR540	CT guided percutaneous vertebroplasty	Complex	£900.00	£285.00

17.9 Thorax

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR595	Insertion of tracheal/bronchial metallic stent	Major	£500.00	£357.00
XR600	Insertion of oesophageal metallic stent under imaging control	Major	£500.00	£142.00

17.10 Gastrointestinal

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR585	Percutaneous gastrostomy (as sole procedure)	Major	£500.00	£357.00
XR590	Percutaneous gastrojejunostomy (as sole procedure)	Major	£600.00	£0.00

17.11 Liver

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR550	Transarterial chemoembolization (TACE), +/- drug eluting bead (DEB)	Major	£600.00	£0.00
XR570	Percutaneous insertion of plastic biliary endoprosthesis	Major	£500.00	£428.00
XR575	Percutaneous insertion of metallic biliary endoprosthesis	Xmajor	£750.00	£428.00
XR576	Biliary drainage with occluded stent in place	Major	£750.00	£142.00
XR580	Percutaneous cholecystostomy	Major	£550.00	£0.00
XR610	Transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt	Complex	£900.00	£632.00

17.12 Urinary

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR630	Percutaneous nephrostomy	Intermediate	£410.00	£213.00
XR640	Percutaneous creation of track to kidney for nephrolithotomy +/- insertion of stent	Xmajor	£800.00	£213.00
XR650	Percutaneous pyelolysis	Xmajor	£800.00	£0.00
XR660	Insertion of stent into ureters - unilateral	Major	£400.00	£142.00
XR661	Insertion of stent into ureters - bilateral	Major	£450.00	£213.00
XR670	Radiofrequency kidney ablation	Complex	£1,100.00	£857.00

17.13 Other

CCSD	Description	Complexity	Specialist fee	Anaesthetist fee
XR365	Magnetic Resonance Image-guided focused ultrasound for ablation of uterine fibroids	Complex	£900.00	£499.00
XR910	Insertion of central venous catheter - tunnelled (X-ray guided)	Intermediate	£200.00	£142.00
XR915	Insertion of central venous catheter - non-tunnelled (X-ray guided)	Intermediate	£350.00	£213.00
XR917	Peripherally inserted central venous catheters (PICCs) under X-ray guidance	Intermediate	£200.00	£0.00
XR920	Cyst ablation under imaging control	Intermediate	£350.00	£0.00
XR930	Bilateral inferior petrosal sinus sampling	Major	£0.00	£0.00
XR935	Insertion/removal of vena cava filter	Intermediate	£400.00	£0.00
XR936	Insertion of guidewire into breast lesion under imaging control	Minor	£200.00	£129.00
XR937	Insertion of magnetic marker for non-palpable breast lesions under imaging control	Minor	£250.00	£0.00
XR939	Insertion of radio-frequency identification tag for non-palpable breast lesions under imaging control	Minor	£100.00	£0.00
XR940	Retrieval of foreign body under X-ray guidance	Major	£450.00	£142.00
XR950	Occlusion of fistula under imaging control	Major	£700.00	£0.00
XR960	Percutaneous thermal coagulation of mass	Complex	£1,100.00	£857.00
XR962	Percutaneous chemical ablation of tumour - ultrasound guided	Intermediate	£1,100.00	£0.00
XR963	Percutaneous chemical ablation of tumour - CT guided	Intermediate	£1,100.00	£428.00
XR964	Ablation of liver lesion(s) (radiofrequency)	Complex	£1,100.00	£857.00
XR967	CT guided thermocoagulation of osteoid osteoma	Complex	£500.00	£285.00
XR968	Colonic stent insertion	Major	£750.00	£0.00