This list represents coding examples for common spine procedures. The information can also be used in conjunction with the Medicare Fee Calculator on [http://www.cms.gov/apps/physician-fee-schedule/overview.aspx](http://www.cms.gov/apps/physician-fee-schedule/overview.aspx) to estimate the amount of physician reimbursement expected from the performance of one or more of these procedures.

### FUSION PROCEDURES

**Anterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion (ALIF)**

#### ALIF with Posterior Instrumentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Interbody Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>22558</td>
<td>fusion of first interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22585</td>
<td>fusion of each additional interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22853</td>
<td>assigned once for each interspace (not per device)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22840</td>
<td>non-segmental instrumentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22842</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 3 – 6 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22843</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 7 – 12 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22844</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 13+ vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use of Bone Graft:**

- **Allograft (morselized)**: +20930, e.g., bone chips, bone graft
- **Allograft (structural)**: +20931, e.g., bone dowel
- **Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)**: +20936, e.g., bone from laminectomy via same incision as fusion
- **Autograft (morselized, separate incision)**: +20937, e.g., crushed bone harvested from iliac crest
- **Autograft (structural, separate incision)**: +20938, e.g., bone cortex graft from iliac crest

#### ALIF with Anterior Instrumentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Interbody Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>22558</td>
<td>fusion of first interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22585</td>
<td>fusion of each additional interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22853</td>
<td>assigned once for each interspace (not per device)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22845</td>
<td>spanning 2 – 3 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22846</td>
<td>spanning 4 – 7 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22847</td>
<td>spanning 8 or more vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use of Bone Graft:**

- **Allograft (morselized)**: +20930, e.g., bone chips, bone graft
- **Allograft (structural)**: +20931, e.g., bone dowel
- **Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)**: +20936, e.g., bone from laminectomy via same incision as fusion
- **Autograft (morselized, separate incision)**: +20937, e.g., crushed bone harvested from iliac crest
- **Autograft (structural, separate incision)**: +20938, e.g., bone cortex graft from iliac crest

#### ALIF with rhBMP Bone Graft and LT-CAGE Lumbar Tapered Fusion Device, Single Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Interbody Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>22558</td>
<td>fusion of single level interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22853</td>
<td>assigned once for each interspace (not per device)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placement of Osteopromotive Material</td>
<td>+20930</td>
<td>used for bone graft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Posterior Lumbar Fusion Posterolateral

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description with Posterior Instrumentation</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Posterolateral Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>22612 +22614</td>
<td>fusion of first level fusion of each additional segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22840 +22842 +22843 +22844</td>
<td>non-segmental instrumentation segmental; spanning 3–6 vertebral segments segmental; spanning 7–12 vertebral segments segmental; spanning 13+ vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use of Bone Graft:**
- Allograft (morselized)
- Allograft (structural)
- Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)
- Autograft (morselized, separate incision)
- Autograft (structural, separate incision)

### Posterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion (PLIF) or Transforaminal Lumbar Interbody Fusion (TLIF)

**PLIF or TLIF with Posterior Instrumentation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poster Interbody Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>22630 +22632</td>
<td>fusion of first interspace fusion of each additional interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22853</td>
<td>assigned once for each interspace (not per device)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22840 +22842 +22843 +22844</td>
<td>non-segmental instrumentation segmental; spanning 3–6 vertebral segments segmental; spanning 7–12 vertebral segments segmental; spanning 13+ vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use of Bone Graft:**
- Allograft (morselized)
- Allograft (structural)
- Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)
- Autograft (morselized, separate incision)
- Autograft (structural, separate incision)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+20930</td>
<td>e.g., bone chips, bone graft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+20931</td>
<td>e.g., bone dowel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+20936</td>
<td>e.g., bone from laminectomy via same incision as fusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+20937</td>
<td>e.g., crushed bone harvested from iliac crest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+20938</td>
<td>e.g., bone cortex graft from iliac crest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** CPT® Assistant (January 2001) states that laminectomy specifically for the purpose of decompression, beyond the work of preparing the interspace for fusion, may be separately coded. However, laminectomy codes 63030, 63042, and 63047 are bundled into fusion code 22630 per NCCI edits and policy, which do not allow separate payment when performed at the same interspace.

### PLIF with Posterior Instrumentation Via METRx System / CD Horizon Sextant System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poster Interbody Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>22630 +22632</td>
<td>fusion of first interspace fusion of each additional interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22853</td>
<td>assigned once for each interspace (not per device)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22840 +22842</td>
<td>non-segmental instrumentation segmental; spanning 3–6 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use of Bone Graft:**
- Allograft (morselized)
- Allograft (structural)
- Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)
- Autograft (morselized, separate incision)
- Autograft (structural, separate incision)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+20930</td>
<td>e.g., bone chips, bone graft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+20931</td>
<td>e.g., bone dowel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+20936</td>
<td>e.g., bone from laminectomy via same incision as fusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+20937</td>
<td>e.g., crushed bone harvested from iliac crest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+20938</td>
<td>e.g., bone cortex graft from iliac crest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** CPT® Assistant (January 2001) states that laminectomy specifically for the purpose of decompression, beyond the work of preparing the interspace for fusion, may be separately coded. However, laminectomy codes 63030, 63042, and 63047 are bundled into fusion code 22630 per NCCI edits and policy, which do not allow separate payment when performed at the same interspace.
### Classic 360° Procedure: ALIF and Posterolateral Fusion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Posterolateral Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>226612</td>
<td>posterior fusion of first level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22614</td>
<td>posterior fusion of each additional segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Interbody Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>22558</td>
<td>anterior fusion of first interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22585</td>
<td>anterior fusion of each additional interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22853</td>
<td>assigned once for each interspace (not per device)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22840</td>
<td>non-segmental instrumentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22842</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 3–6 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22843</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 7–12 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22844</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 13+ vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use of Bone Graft:

- Allograft (morselized)
- Allograft (structural)
- Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)
- Autograft (morselized, separate incision)
- Autograft (structural, separate incision)

### Single Incision 360° Fusion: PLIF/TLIF and Posterolateral Fusion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Combined Fusion, Posterolateral fusion, with Posterior</td>
<td>22633</td>
<td>fusion of first interspace and segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interbody Fusion</td>
<td>+22634</td>
<td>fusion of each additional interspace/segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22853</td>
<td>assigned once for each interspace (not per device)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22840</td>
<td>non-segmental instrumentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22842</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 3–6 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22843</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 7–12 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22844</td>
<td>segmental; spanning 13+ vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use of Bone Graft:

- Allograft (morselized)
- Allograft (structural)
- Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)
- Autograft (morselized, separate incision)
- Autograft (structural, separate incision)

### Note:

CPT® Assistant (January 2001) states that laminectomy specifically for the purpose of decompression, beyond the work of preparing the interspace for fusion, may be separately coded. However, laminectomy codes 63030, 63042, and 63047 are bundled into fusion code 22633 per NCCI edits and policy, which do not allow separate payment when performed at the same interspace.

### Direct Lateral Interbody Fusion (DLIF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Interbody Fusion, Lumbar</td>
<td>22558</td>
<td>fusion of first interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22585</td>
<td>fusion of each additional interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22853</td>
<td>assigned once for each interspace (not per device)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22845</td>
<td>spanning 2–3 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22846</td>
<td>spanning 4–7 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+22847</td>
<td>spanning 8 or more vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use of Bone Graft:

- Allograft (morselized)
- Allograft (structural)
- Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)
- Autograft (morselized, separate incision)
- Autograft (structural, separate incision)

### Note:

DLIF is a form of anterior lumbar interbody fusion.
Other Fusion and Instrumental Spinal Column Procedures

### Anterior Cervical Discectomy with Interbody Fusion (ACDF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Interbody Fusion, with Discectomy and Decompression; Cervical Below C2</td>
<td>22551 +22552</td>
<td>fusion of first interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22845 +22846 +22847</td>
<td>spanning 2–3 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Bone Graft:</td>
<td></td>
<td>spanning 4–7 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>spanning 8 or more vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allograft (morselized)</td>
<td>+20930 +20931</td>
<td>e.g., bone chips, bone graft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allograft (structural)</td>
<td>+20936 +20937</td>
<td>e.g., bone dowel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autograft (rib/lamina/spinous process, same incision)</td>
<td>+20938</td>
<td>e.g., bone from laminectomy via same incision as fusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autograft (structural, separate incision)</td>
<td></td>
<td>e.g., crushed bone harvested from iliac crest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Per CPT manual instructions and NCCI edits, do not report anterior interbody cervical fusion codes 22554 or 22585 with anterior discectomy codes 63075 or 63076 even if performed by different physicians. To report anterior cervical discectomy and interbody fusion at the same level during the same session, use 22551.

### Anterior Cervical Fusion with Corpectomy (e.g., for burst fracture)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Interbody Fusion, Cervical</td>
<td>22554 +22585</td>
<td>fusion of first interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertebral Corpectomy, Cervical (e.g., for burst fracture)</td>
<td>63081 +63082</td>
<td>corpectomy of single segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of Biomechanical Device (e.g., cages)</td>
<td>+22854</td>
<td>assigned once for each contiguous defect (e.g., C4-C6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anterior Instrumentation</td>
<td>+22845 +22846 +22847</td>
<td>spanning 2–3 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>spanning 4–7 vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>spanning 8 or more vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of Bone Graft:</td>
<td></td>
<td>e.g., bone chips, bone graft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>e.g., bone dowel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>e.g., bone from laminectomy via same incision as fusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>e.g., crushed bone harvested from iliac crest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>e.g., bone cortex graft from iliac crest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Code +22854 for application of biomechanical device is used only when it is applied to a vertebral defect resulting from concurrent corpectomy (partial or complete vertebral body resection) accompanied by spinal fusion. To qualify as a cervical vertebral corpectomy for coding purposes, at least one-half of the vertebral body must be removed (CPT Assistant, April 2016).
### OTHER SPINAL PROCEDURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laminectomy, Lumbar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminectomy without facetectomy, foraminotomy or discectomy, lumbar, except for spondylolisthesis</td>
<td>63005, 63017</td>
<td>laminectomy of one or two vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminectomy with removal of abnormal facets and/or pars inter-articularis with decompression, for spondylolisthesis, lumbar</td>
<td>63012</td>
<td>Gill-type procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminotomy (hemilaminectomy), including partial facetectomy, foraminotomy and/or excision of herniated disc, lumbar</td>
<td>63030, 63035</td>
<td>hemilaminectomy of one interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminotomy (hemilaminectomy), including partial facetectomy, foraminotomy and/or excision of herniated disc, re-exploration, lumbar</td>
<td>63042, 63044</td>
<td>hemilaminectomy of one interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminotomy, facetectomy and foraminotomy, lumbar, (e.g., for spinal or lateral recess stenosis)</td>
<td>63047, 63048</td>
<td>laminectomy of one vertebral segment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Codes 63030 and 63042 describe partial removal of the lamina (including partial removal of the facet and foramen) on one side, with removal of intervertebral disc if performed. Bilateral modifier 50 can be used with these codes. Code 63047 describes complete removal of the lamina (including complete removal of the facet and foramen) on both sides, with removal of intervertebral disc if performed (CPT® Assistant December 2012). Bilateral modifier 50 cannot be used with this code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discectomy, Lumbar, Open or Via Tubular Retractor System (e.g., METRx™)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posterior discectomy, lumbar</td>
<td>63030, 63035</td>
<td>discectomy of first interspace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>discectomy of each additional interspace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** This procedure involves a laminectomy (hemilaminectomy) to access the disc. If the procedure is performed bilaterally, use modifier 50.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vertebroplasty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percutaneous vertebroplasty (bone biopsy included when performed), 1 vertebral body, unilateral or bilateral injection, inclusive of all imaging guidance</td>
<td>22510, 22511, 22512</td>
<td>cervicothoracic, lumbosacral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>each additional level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balloon Kyphoplasty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percutaneous vertebral augmentation, including cavity creation (fracture reduction and bone biopsy included when performed) using mechanical device, one vertebral body, unilateral or bilateral cannulation inclusive of all imaging guidance</td>
<td>22513, 22514, 22515</td>
<td>thoracic, lumbar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>each additional level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cervical Arthroplasty (Total Cervical Disc Replacement, Artificial Disc)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total disc arthroplasty, anterior approach, cervical</td>
<td>22856</td>
<td>single interspace</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Description</th>
<th>CPT</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laminoplasty, Cervical</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminoplasty, cervical with decompression</td>
<td>63050</td>
<td>two or more vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laminoplasty with decompression and reconstruction</td>
<td>63051</td>
<td>two or more vertebral segments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>