

# Urinary Sites Abstracting 101 2025 Training

## Urinary & Kidney Treatment



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## Typical Urinary Workup

- Cystoscopy  
*Examination of the bladder using a fiberoptic instrument*
- IVP (Intravenous Pyelogram)  
*Imaging with contrast that shows filling defects seen in urinary system*
- Retrograde Pyelogram Cystogram  
*X-ray to visualize bladder*
- Ultrasound/CT Scans
- Urine cytology/Bladder washings cytology

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# Urine Cytology

- Positive urine cytology is reportable (2013+)

*SEER Manual page 14*

- Code primary site: **C689** (without more information)

**EXCEPTION:**

- Subsequent biopsy of a urinary site is negative, do not report case

- Suspicious urine cytology is not reportable

*Follow back on cases where cytology uses ambiguous terminology*

**EXCEPTION:**

- Reportable diagnosis confirmed later
- Date of diagnosis is suspicious cytology

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## Bladder Treatment

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# Typical Bladder Treatment

- **Surgery**

*Transurethral resection of bladder tumor (TURBT)*

*Cystectomy – invasive tumor*

- **Systemic therapy**

*Chemotherapy*

- Intravesical chemo for superficial/non-invasive tumors
- Systemic for metastatic disease or locally advanced tumors

*Immunotherapy*

- Intravesical BCG for non-invasive/superficial tumors

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## Bladder – Surgery Codes

### Bladder

[Coding Guidelines: Bladder](#) (PDF, 255 KB)

[Solid Tumor Rules: Urinary](#) (PDF, 7.9 MB)

#### **Surgery Codes**

- [Bladder - \(C670-C679\)](#) (PDF, 168 KB)

- SEER\* Appendix C – Surgery Codes

<https://seer.cancer.gov/manuals/2025/appendixc.html>

Bladder site-specific codes

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# Treatment Coding

## Date Therapy Initiated

Start date of the **FIRST** therapy of **ANY** type of treatment

## Date 1<sup>st</sup> Surgical Procedure

Date of the **FIRST** surgery:  
 • Surgery Primary Site 2023  
 • SLN Bx  
 • Scope of Reg LN Surgery  
 • Surgical Procedure of Other Site

## Date Most Definitive Surgical Resection Primary Site

Date of the most invasive, extensive, or definitive surgery

## Surgery of Primary Site 2023

Entire Op report is the source document

Assign the code that reflects the cumulative effect

• The most invasive, extensive, or definitive surgery if the patient had multiple surgical procedures

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# Bladder Treatment by Stage

Stage	Treatment
0, 0a, or 1 Non-muscle invasion	TURB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medium risk               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intravesical BCG or chemo <b>OR</b></li> <li>• Surveillance</li> </ul> </li> <li>• High risk               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intravesical BCG or chemo <b>OR</b></li> <li>• Partial or Radical cystectomy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2	TURB or partial cystectomy No cancer in LN: 3-6 cycles chemotherapy
3a	TURB Partial or Radical cystectomy <b>and/or</b> Neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy, immunotherapy or radiation
3b; 4a	TURB; Radical cystectomy <b>OR</b> Systemic treatment
4b	Systemic treatment

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# Instillation/Intravesical Therapy

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- Drugs administered directly into bladder through a catheter
  - Affecting cells lining the inside of the bladder and have little to no effect on cells elsewhere
  - Chemotherapy: mitomycin or gemcitabine
  - Immunotherapy: BCG
- Can be given at the same time as TURBT  
*Code surgery A270 and appropriate systemic therapy*
- Administered after TURBT or other surgery  
*Surgery:*
  - **A150** for chemotherapy
  - **A170** for immunotherapy*Systemic therapy also coded as appropriate*

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# Bladder – Surgery Codes

- No path specimen for the following:
  - A150 – Intravesical therapy*
    - **NOT** immunotherapy, typically chemo and **NO** other surgery
  - A160 – BCG or other immunotherapy*
    - Use for instillation of BCG or other immunotherapy drugs and **NO** other surgery
  - Code **BOTH** chemo and/or immunotherapy **AND** surgery for these procedures

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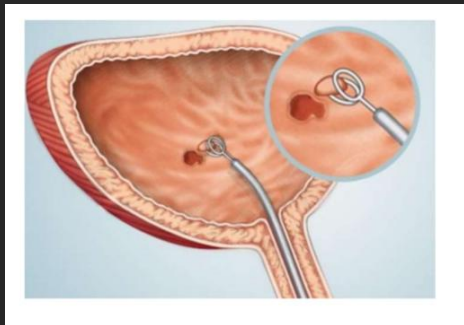
# Bladder – Surgery Codes

Description	Notes	Code
Excisional Biopsy	TURBT/TURB	A270
Excisional biopsy + Electrocautery	Local tumor excision, polypectomy or TURB using electrocautery to perform the excision	A220
Partial cystectomy	Partial removal of the bladder; part of the organ	A300
Simple/total/complete cystectomy	Entire bladder removed; no reconstruction	A500
Complete cystectomy w/ reconstruction	Unknown type of reconstruction performed	A600
Reconstruction with ileal conduit	Portion of ileum used to create tube and ureters connected to it	A610
Reconstruction with continent reservoir/pouch, NOS	Piece of intestine used to create a pouch inside the abdomen and connected to ureters and stoma in abdomen	A620
Reconstruction with abdominal pouch (cutaneous)	Piece of colon used to create a pouch to hold urine in abdomen	A630
Reconstruction with in situ pouch (orthotopic)	Pouch created in pelvis from portion of small bowel and attach to urethra; near-normal voiding	A640

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## Bladder Surgery - TURBT



- Biopsy or remove an entire small tumor inside the bladder  
*Diagnose and/or treat bladder cancer*  
*Surgery code: A270*
  - With fulguration: A220
  - With electrocautery: A220
- Fulguration/electrocautery burns tumor away and controls bleeding

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# TURBT Surgical Margins

- Surgical Margins of Primary Site

*You will not often get margin information from a TURB*

If your pathology report indicates...

- Margins could not be assessed or indeterminate, **code 7**
- Margins not mentioned, **code 9**

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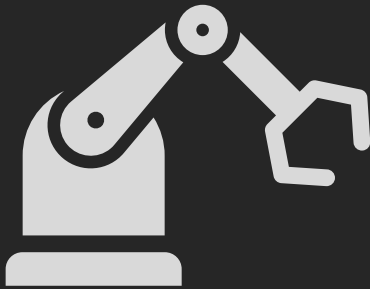
# Bladder – Surgery Codes

Description	Notes	Code
Pelvic exenteration, NOS		<b>A700</b>
Radical cystectomy incl. anterior exenteration	<i>Females:</i> bladder, uterus, ovaries, entire vaginal wall and urethra <i>Males:</i> bladder and prostate (cystoprostatectomy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If described as pelvic exenteration but prostate is <b>NOT</b> removed, use codes <b>A600-A640</b></li> </ul>	<b>A710</b>
Posterior exenteration	<i>Females:</i> everything in code <b>A710</b> + vagina, rectum, and anus <i>Males:</i> everything in code <b>A710</b> + rectum and anus	<b>A720</b>
Total exenteration	All organs in codes <b>A710+A720</b>	<b>A730</b>
Extended exenteration	Includes <b>A730</b> + pelvic blood vessels and/or bony pelvis	<b>A740</b>

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# Robotic Neobladder Procedure



[https://youtu.be/\\_zYeoQFH5fY](https://youtu.be/_zYeoQFH5fY)

# Urethra Treatment

# SEER\* Appendix C: Coding Guidelines

- Urethra, Urinary Other  
*Surgery Codes: All Other Sites*

## Urethra, Urinary Other

[Coding Guidelines: Urethra](#) (PDF, 102 KB)

[Solid Tumor Rules: Urinary](#) (PDF, 7.9 MB)

### Surgery Codes

- [All Other Sites - \(C680-C689\)](#) (PDF, 156 KB)

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## Urethra Surgery Codes

Codes	Description	Notes
A200	Local Tumor Excision NOS	
A260	Polypectomy	
A270	Excisional biopsy	
	<b>If any of these performed with the above codes</b> A220 Electrocautery/Fulguration A230 Cryosurgery	
A300	Simple/partial resection primary site	Portion of primary removed
A400	Total resection primary site	Entire organ removed
A500	Debulking surgery	Cytoreduction; Remove as much visible tumor as possible
A600	Radical surgery	Partial or Total resection primary <b>WITH</b> resection in continuity with other organs (en bloc)

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# Upper Urinary Tract Treatment

RENAL PELVIS  
URETER

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## SEER\* Appendix C: Coding Guidelines

Renal Pelvis, Ureter

[Coding Guidelines: Renal Pelvis and Ureter](#) (PDF, 101 KB)

[Solid Tumor Rules: Urinary](#) (PDF, 7.9 MB)

### Surgery Codes

• [Kidney, Renal Pelvis, and Ureter - \(C649, C659, C669\)](#) (PDF, 139 KB)

- Renal Pelvis, Ureter  
*Surgery Codes: Kidney, Renal Pelvis,  
and Ureter*

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# Treatment - Upper Urothelial Tract

## • Renal Pelvis and Ureter

### Localized:

- Surgery (nephroureterectomy or segmental resection)

### Regional:

- Nephroureterectomy + Regional LND
- Chemotherapy (adjuvant or neoadjuvant)

### Metastatic:

- Possible nephroureterectomy + Regional LND
- Systemic therapy alone or as adjuvant or neoadjuvant therapy



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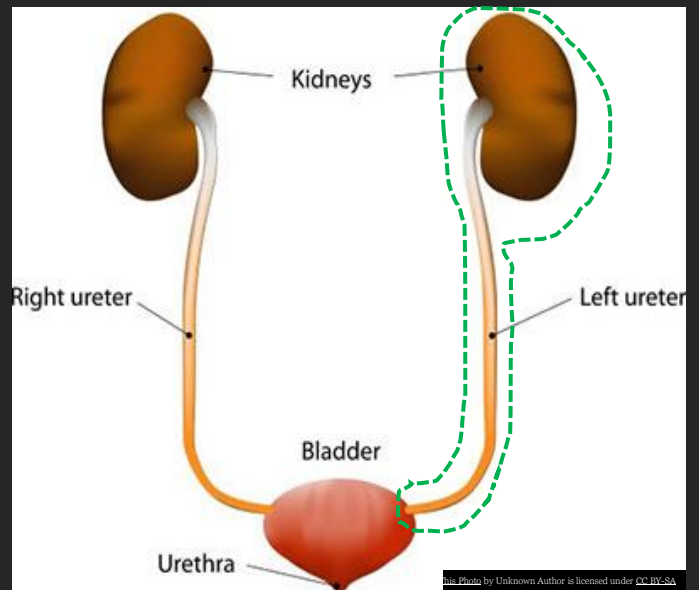
# Renal Pelvis & Ureter Surgery Codes

Codes	Description	Notes
<b>A200</b>	Local tumor excision NOS	
<b>A260</b>	Polypectomy	
<b>A270</b>	Excisional biopsy	
	If any of the following is performed with the codes above: <b>A210</b> Electrocautery/Fulguration <b>A230</b> Cryosurgery	
<b>A300</b>	Partial or subtotal nephrectomy <b>OR</b> partial ureterectomy	Segmental resection; Wedge resection
<b>A400</b>	Nephroureterectomy	Includes bladder cuff for RP or Ureter
<b>A800</b>	Nephrectomy, NOS <b>or</b> Ureterectomy NOS	

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## Nephroureterectomy



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## Kidney Treatment

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# Kidney Treatment



## Surgery

Most stages of renal cancer



## Radiation

Using stereotactic body radiation (SBRT) if necessary



## Targeted Therapy

*Typically for Stage 3 and 4 disease*

- Chemotherapy
- Immunotherapy

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# Treatment by Stage

Stage	Treatment
1a	Partial nephrectomy; Radical nephrectomy <b>or</b> Thermal ablation <b>or</b> Active surveillance
1b	Partial nephrectomy; Radical nephrectomy <b>or</b> Active surveillance
2a/b	Radical <b>or</b> partial nephrectomy <b>and</b> If high grade may consider immunotherapy (Keytruda)
3a/b/c	Radical nephrectomy; sometimes partial nephrectomy Clear cell RCC: adjuvant systemic therapy
4	Cytoreductive nephrectomy <b>and/or</b> Systemic therapy

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# Kidney Surgery Codes

Code	Description	Notes
A130	Cryosurgery ( <b>no pathology report</b> )	AKA: cryoablation; cold to destroy kidney tumors; T1 tumors
A150	Thermal ablation ( <b>no pathology report</b> )	AKA: radiofrequency ablation (RFA); uses high-energy waves to heat and destroy tumor; T1 tumors
A300	Partial or subtotal nephrectomy	Segmental or wedge resection
A400	Complete/Total/Simple nephrectomy	Includes bladder cuff, renal pelvis, or ureter
A500	Radical nephrectomy	May include removal of portion IVC, adrenal gland, Gerota's fascia, perinephric fat or partial/total ureter
A700	Any nephrectomy in continuity with resection of other organs	Other organs (colon or bladder) may be partial or total removal; En bloc resection
A800	Nephrectomy NOS	Specific type unknown; can't code A300-A700

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# Stereotactic Ablative Body Radiotherapy

- Stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT)

*Thin beams of radiation guided by imaging that target the tumor from many different angles*

- External beam radiation therapy (EBRT)

*Over a course of a few treatments*

*Possible for patients who can't undergo surgery or refuse surgery*

- **Modality:** 02 External Beam Photons
- **Planning Technique:** 06 Stereotactic Radiotherapy

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# Targeted Therapy

Targeted area	Drug
<b>Blood vessel growth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Angiogenesis</li> </ul>	Sunitinib (Sutent) - chemo Pazopanib (Votrient) - chemo Cabozantinib (Cabometyx) - chemo Lenvatinib (Lenvima) - chemo Bevacizumab (Avastin) - immunotherapy Axitinib (Inlyta) - chemo Tivozanib (Fotivda) - chemo Belzuifan (Welireg) - chemo
<b>mTOR protein</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helps cells grow and divide</li> </ul>	Temsirolimus (Torisel) - chemo Everolimus (Afinitor) - chemo

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# Immunotherapy

Immune checkpoint inhibitors	Drug
PD-1 and PD-L1 inhibitors	Pembrolizumab (Keytruda) Nivolumab (Opdivo) Avelumab (Bavencio)d
CTLA-4 inhibitor	Yervoy used with nivolumab
Cytokines	Interleukin-2 (IL-2) – no longer used as much now that newer drugs have been identified to have better response

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# Embolization

## Tumor embolization:

- Intentional blockage of artery or vein to stop flow of blood

## Chemoembolization:

- Tumor embolization + chemo drugs are administered directly into tumor

## Radioembolization:

- Tumor embolization + injection of small radioactive beads or coils into an organ/tumor

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# Coding Embolization

## • Arterial (Transarterial) Embolization

*Before surgery to shrink tumor*

- **Do not code pre-surgical embolization** of hypervascular tumors
  - Prevents excess bleeding during resection
  - *Example:* renal cell metastasis in the brain

*On its own for those who can't undergo surgery*

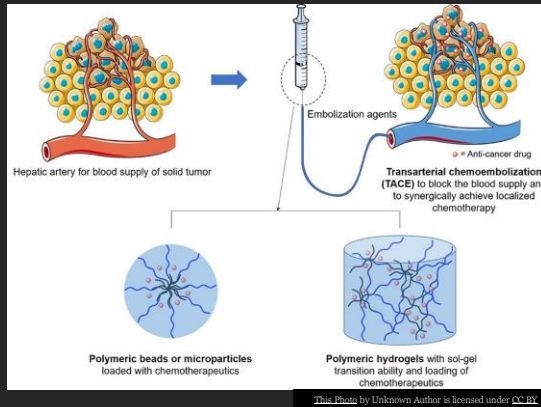
*What is the embolizing agent?*

- Alcohol – code as *Other Therapy* code 1
- Unknown – code as *Other Therapy* code 1
- Gelfoam tract – if given during CT guide biopsy do not code (SINQ #20190023)

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# Coding Embolization



## • Chemoembolization

*Code based on the chemotherapeutic drug(s)*

*Use SEER\*Rx to determine chemotherapy agents*

*Code as chemotherapy*

- Based on number of drugs administered

*01 NOS; 02 single; 03 multiple*

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# Coding Embolization

## • Radioembolization

*Not typical for kidney primaries*

*Embolization combined with injecting small radioactive bead, spheres, or coils into an organ or tumor*

- Usually yttrium-90 (Y90) or lutetium-177 (Lu 177)

*Code under radiation treatment*

- *Radiation treatment modality: 13 radioisotopes, NOS*

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## Questions? Contact me.

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Education & Training

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