

**Skin**

**C440–C449**

(Except for M9727, 9733, 9741-9742, 9764-9809, 9832, 9840-9931, 9945-9946, 9950-9967, 9975-9992)

**Codes**

00 None; no surgery of primary site; autopsy ONLY

10 Local tumor destruction, NOS

11 Photodynamic therapy (PDT)

12 Electrocautery; fulguration (includes use of hot forceps for tumor destruction)

13 Cryosurgery

14 Laser ablation

**No specimen sent to pathology from surgical events 10–14**

20 Local tumor excision, NOS

26 Polypectomy

27 Excisional biopsy

**Any combination of 20 or 26–27 WITH**

21 Photodynamic therapy (PDT)

22 Electrocautery

23 Cryosurgery

24 Laser ablation

25 Laser excision

**[SEER Note:** Assign code 11 if there is no pathology specimen. Assign code 21 if there is a pathology specimen. Codes 20-27 include shave and wedge resection]

30 Biopsy of primary tumor followed by a gross excision of the lesion (does not have to be done under the same anesthesia)

31 Shave biopsy followed by a gross excision of the lesion

32 Punch biopsy followed by a gross excision of the lesion

33 Incisional biopsy followed by a gross excision of the lesion

34 Mohs surgery, NOS

**[SEER Note:** Assign code 34 for shave biopsy followed by MOHS surgery for melanoma of the skin.]

35 Mohs with 1-cm margin or less

36 Mohs with more than 1-cm margin

**[SEER Note:** Codes 30 to 35 include less than a wide excision, less than or equal to 1-cm margin, or status of margin is unknown. If it is stated to be a **wide excision** or **reexcision**, but the **margins are unknown**, code to 30.

Assign a surgery code from the 30-35 range when any margin is less than 1 cm.

**Example:** Melanoma: with surgical margins greater than 1 cm for length and width but less than 1 cm for depth. Assign a surgery code in the 30-35 range. Since tumor thickness is an important prognostic factor for cutaneous melanoma, the deep margin is of particular importance.

Use code 45 when there is a wide excision AND it is known that the margins of excision are greater than 1 cm.]

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- 45 Wide excision or reexcision of lesion or minor (local) amputation with margins more than 1 cm, NOS. Margins **MUST** be microscopically negative.
- 46 WITH margins more than 1 cm and less than or equal to 2 cm
- 47 WITH margins greater than 2 cm

**If the excision does not have microscopically negative margins greater than 1 cm, use the appropriate code, 20-36.**

**[SEER Note:** Assign code 47 for amputation of finger.  
**Example:** Amputation of finger for subungual melanoma.]

- 60 Major amputation

**Specimen sent to pathology from surgical events 20-60.**

- 90 Surgery, NOS
- 99 Unknown if surgery performed; death certificate **ONLY**