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Podiatry-Skin Substitute Billing Guidelines

Qualifiers for skin graft:

- The wound has not responded to treatment for four weeks.
- The wound size has not reduced by more than 50% by using standard wound care protocol.

Disqualifiers for skin graft:

- The wound has shown signs of responding to treatment.
- A skin graft has been applied, to the same area, by another or the same doctor within the past six weeks.

Pre-authorization instructions: Medicare does not need pre-auth. However, for CPT Q4161 get pre-auth from commercial insurances. Taking pre-auth online from the respective insurance website is best option. Insurance request for prior documentation to check qualifiers are properly documented and then determine medical necessity.

Any questions: Please call Tracy Jones, RHIT, CHTS at: 352-665-9316

No of Units used guidelines: per sq. cm (per unit) use pricing as per invoice.

Size used	Qty or No of Units used on claim	Notes
1.5 cm x 1.5 cm	3 sq. cm. (3 units)	
2 cm x 2 cm	4 sq. cm. (4 units)	
3 cm x 3 cm	9 sq. cm. (9 units)	
4 cm x 4 cm	16 sq. cm. (16 units)	
5 cm x 5 cm	25 sq. cm. (25 units)	
6 cm x 7 cm	42 sq. cm. (42 units)	

HCPCS	Q4161
Brief Description	Bio-ConneKt® Wound Matrix, per square cm
Detailed Description	Bio-ConneKt® Wound Matrix, per square centimeter
Payment Limit	Excluded from Physician Fee Schedule by regulation. These codes are for items and/or services that CMS chose to exclude from the fee schedule payment by regulation. No RVUs are shown, and no payment may be made under the fee schedule for these codes. Payment for them, when covered, generally continues under reasonable charge procedure
Layman terms	<p>bio-ConneKt uses collagen from equine, or horse, tendon to create a sterile wound dressing that promotes the healing of exuding wounds, or open wounds that ooze bodily fluid. Report this code for the supply of each square centimeter of bio-ConneKt.</p> <p>Clinical Responsibility bio-ConneKt is similar to other collagen-based wound dressing products that are derived from animal sources, such as bovine, or cow, and porcine, or pig, sources. Collagen is an insoluble fibrous protein, the chief constituent of connective tissue. bio-ConneKt treats pressure, diabetic, chronic vascular, and venous ulcers, and surgical, traumatic, draining, tunneling, and partial and full-thickness wounds.</p> <p>Tips Use Q codes drugs, biologicals and other medical equipment or services not identified by national Level II codes, but for which codes are needed for Medicare claims processing. bio-ConneKt is considered a High-cost skin substitute product.</p>

Initial Visit for skin graft:

Diagnosis: Use dx for wound that skin substitute is being applied					
POS	Code	Modifiers	Qty	Amount	Notes
11	99201-99205, 99211-99215(Office visit should only be billed is patient is seen for a reason other than application of skin substitute	25	1	Varies based on level of visit	Optional depending medical necessity & proper documentation.
11	15002-Surgical preparation or creation of recipient site by excision of open wounds, burn eschar, or scar (including subcutaneous tissues), or incisional release of scar contracture, trunk, arms, legs; first 100 sq cm or 1% of body area of infants and children		1	Medicare Fee Schedule	Zero-day global period. This is only used on initial visit one-time code for that wound. Operative report required for documentation.
11	15003- Surgical preparation or creation of recipient site by excision of open wounds, burn eschar, or scar (including subcutaneous tissues), or incisional release of scar contracture, trunk, arms, legs; each additional 100 sq cm, or part thereof, or each additional 1% of body area of infants and children (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)			Medicare Fee Schedule	This is add-on code used along with 15002 if wound size is larger than 100 sq. cm
11	15004- Surgical preparation or creation of recipient site by excision of open wounds, burn eschar, or scar (including subcutaneous tissues), or incisional release of scar contracture, face, scalp, eyelids, mouth, neck, ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, feet and/or multiple digits; first 100 sq. cm or 1% of body area of infants and children.		1	Medicare Fee Schedule	Zero-day global period. This is only used on initial visit one-time code for that wound. Operative report required for documentation.

11	+15005- Surgical preparation or creation of recipient site by excision of open wounds, burn eschar, or scar (including subcutaneous tissues), or incisional release of scar contracture, face, scalp, eyelids, mouth, neck, ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, feet and/or multiple digits; each additional 100 sq. cm, or part thereof, or each additional 1% of body area of infants and children (List		Depends on wound size	Medicare Fee Schedule	This is add-on code used along with 15004 if wound size is larger than 100 sq. cm
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	separately in addition to code for primary procedure).				
11	15271-Application of skin substitute graft to trunk, arms, legs, total wound surface area up to 100 sq cm; first 25 sq cm or less wound surface area			Medicare Fee Schedule	The fee may be reduced by Medicare based on multiple procedure rule.
11	+15272- Application of skin substitute graft to trunk, arms, legs, total wound surface area up to 100 sq cm; each additional 25 sq cm wound surface area, or part thereof (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)			Medicare Fee Schedule	The fee may be reduced by Medicare based on multiple procedure rule.
11	15275- Application of skin substitute graft to face, scalp, eyelids, mouth, neck, ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, feet, and/or multiple digits, total wound surface area up to 100 sq. cm; first 25 sq. cm or less wound surface area.	59	1	Medicare Fee Schedule	The fee may be reduced by Medicare based on multiple procedure rule.
11	+15276- Application of skin substitute graft to face, scalp, eyelids, mouth, neck, ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, feet, and/or multiple digits, total wound surface area up to 100 sq. cm; each additional 25 sq. cm wound surface area, or part thereof (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).		Depends on wound size	Medicare Fee Schedule	The fee may be reduced by Medicare based on multiple procedure rule
11	97605 : Negative pressure wound therapy (e.g., vacuum assisted drainage collection), utilizing durable medical equipment (DME), including topical application(s), wound assessment, and instruction(s) for ongoing care, per session; total wound(s) surface area less than or equal to 50 square centimeters	59	1	Medicare Fee Schedule	Optional depending medical necessity & proper documentation.
	97605: Negative pressure wound therapy (e.g., vacuum assisted drainage collection), utilizing durable medical equipment (DME), including topical application(s), wound assessment, and instruction(s) for ongoing care, per session; total wound(s) surface area less than or equal to 50 square centimeters	59	1	Medicare Fee Schedule	Optional depending medical necessity & proper documentation.

Q4161- bio-ConneKt per square cm	JC	Depends on wound size i.e. bio-ConneKt size 2X2 = 4 units 3X3 = 9 units 4X4 = 16units 5X5 = 25units 6X7 = 42units		We must submit invoice to payer for the fee schedule to be determined
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Subsequent Visits for skin graft:

Diagnosis: Use dx for wound that skin substitute is being applied					
POS	Code	Modifiers	Qty	Amount	Notes
11	99211-99215 Office visit should only be billed is patient is seen for a reason other than application of skin substitute	25	1	Varies based on level of visit	Optional depending medical necessity & proper documentation.
11	11042: Debridement, subcutaneous tissue (includes epidermis and dermis, if performed); first 20 sq. cm or less or 11043- Debridement, muscle and/or fascia (includes epidermis, dermis, and subcutaneous tissue, if performed); first 20 sq. cm or less or 11044- Debridement, bone (includes epidermis, dermis, subcutaneous tissue, muscle and/or fascia, if performed); first 20 sq. cm or less	59	1	Medicare Fee (11042): Medicare Fee (11043) Medicare Fee (11044)	Optional depending medical necessity & proper documentation.
11	15275- Application of skin substitute graft to face, scalp, eyelids, mouth, neck, ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, feet, and/or multiple digits, total wound surface area up to 100 sq. cm; first 25 sq. cm or less wound surface area.		1	Medicare Fee Schedule	
11	+15276- Application of skin substitute graft to face, scalp, eyelids, mouth, neck, ears, orbits, genitalia, hands, feet, and/or multiple digits, total wound surface area up to 100 sq. cm; each additional 25 sq. cm wound surface area, or part thereof (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).		Depends on wound size	Medicare Fee Schedule	

11	97605: Negative pressure wound therapy (e.g., vacuum assisted drainage collection), utilizing durable medical equipment (DME), including topical application(s), wound assessment, and instruction(s) for ongoing care, per session; total wound(s) surface area less than or equal to 50 square centimeters	59	1	Medicare Fee Schedule	Optional depending medical necessity & proper documentation.
11	Q4161- bio-ConneKt per sq. cm.	JC	Depends on wound size i.e. bio-ConneKt size 2X2 = 4 units 3X3 = 9 units 4X4 = 16units 5X5 = 25units 6X7 = 42units		We must submit invoice to payer for the fee schedule to be determined



MLM Biologics
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Qualifiers for skin graft:

- The wound has not responded to treatment for four weeks.
- The wound size has not reduced by more than 50% by using standard wound care protocol.
- Medicare does NOT need pre-approval, private insurance does.

Please send operative report to mlm@fidusmd.com for reimbursement information