

CHAPTER 3  
SECTION 2.2

## RECONSTRUCTIVE COLLAGEN IMPLANTATION

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Authority: [32 CFR 199.4\(c\)\(2\)](#), and [\(e\)\(8\)](#)

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### I. PROCEDURE CODE RANGE

11950 - 11954

A. Collagen implant is a purified material derived from cattle skin dispersed in a saline solution with a local anesthetic. There are two types of collagen implants, non cross-linked collagen implants (i.e., Zyderm, Zyplast) and cross-linked collagen implants (Kerogen). Both types of collagen implants are Food and Drug Administration approved.

B. Collagen implantation involves injecting collagen implant under the skin. Non cross linked collagen implantation is used to restore the natural contour to skin which has been damaged by age, trauma, disease, or congenital anomalies. Cross linked collagen implantation is used to restore natural contour of the skin damaged by age, trauma, disease or congenital anomalies and, is also used for under the skin augmentation of soft tissues beneath keratotic lesions, such as corns or calluses, of the foot.

### II. POLICY

Non cross-linked and cross linked collagen implantation by injection is an appropriate form of reconstructive surgery. Collagen implantation may be cost-shared, subject to the cosmetic, reconstructive and plastic surgery provisions of [32 CFR 199.4](#) and the provisions outlined below under "Policy Considerations".

### III. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

A. Non cross-linked and cross linked collagen implantations by injection performed primarily for psychological reasons or to correct minor dermatological blemishes, marks or anatomical anomalies, or to correct conditions resulting from the aging process are excluded from coverage.

B. Cross-linked collagen implantation used in the treatment of foot disorders is considered unproven and cannot be cost-shared.

C. For further indications regarding Collagen Implants, see [Chapter 3, Section 9.4](#) of the Policy Manual.

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