



## **Clinical Indicators: Laryngoscopy/Nasopharyngoscopy \***

<b><u>Procedure</u></b> (Diagnosis must be appropriate for the procedure)	<b>CPT</b>	<b>Days<sup>1</sup></b>
Laryngoscopy, flexible fiberoptic; diagnostic	31575	000
Laryngoscopy, flexible fiberoptic; with biopsy	31576	000
Laryngoscopy, flexible fiberoptic; with removal of foreign body	31577	000
Laryngoscopy, flexible fiberoptic; with removal of lesion	31578	000
Laryngoscopy, flexible or rigid fiberoptic; with stroboscopy	31579	000
Nasopharyngoscopy with endoscope (separate procedure)	92511	000

*\* If appropriate, a "-25" modifier must be added to the Evaluation and Management (E & M) code if this procedure is performed on the same date.*

### **Indications**

#### **1. History** (one or more required)

- a) Persistent hoarseness.
- b) Suspected neoplasm of upper aerodigestive tract.
- c) Chronic cough.
- d) Chronic postnasal drainage.
- e) Recurrent epistaxis.
- f) Chronic rhinorrhea.
- g) Chronic nasal congestion or obstruction.
- h) Hemoptysis.
- i) Hemorrhage from throat.
- j) Throat pain.
- k) Otalgia.
- l) Airway obstruction.
- m) Dyspnea.
- n) Stridor.
- o) Dysphagia
- p) Head or neck masses—unknown primary tumor.
- q) Laryngeal injury—with hoarseness or airway obstruction.
- r) Chronic aspiration.

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<sup>1</sup> RBRVS Global Days



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- s) Velopharyngeal incompetence.
- t) Suspected foreign body.
- u) Recurrent serous otitis media in an adult. unilateral middle ear effusion
- v) Obstructive sleep apnea or severe snoring.
- w) Preoperative assessment of vocal cord function, eg, prior to thyroid surgery
- x) Headaches or facial pain.

**2. Physical Examination** (one or more required)

- a) Inadequate complete ENT exam (including mirror exam).
- b) Description of breathing and voice.

**3. Tests** (optional, unless required by diagnosis)

- a) CT scan of neck including nasopharynx; may include paranasal sinuses, orbit or skull base.
- b) Barium swallow, standard or modified.
- c) Chest x-ray.

**Post Examination Observations**

- a) Bleeding from nose or mouth or emesis of fresh blood; notify surgeon.
- b) Pain.
- c) Dyspnea.

**Outcome Review**

**1. Immediate**

- a) Complications noted, if any.
- b) Findings of examination.
- c) Documentation of procedure.

**Associated ICD-9 Diagnostic Codes** (Representative, but not all-inclusive codes):

- 141.0 Malignant neoplasm of base of tongue
- 141.1 Malignant neoplasm of dorsal surface of tongue (not BOT)
- 141.2 Malignant neoplasm tip & lateral border of tongue



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- 141.3 Malignant neoplasm of ventral surface of tongue
- 141.4 Malignant neoplasm of anterior 2/3 of tongue, NOS
- 141.5 Malignant neoplasm of junctional zone of tongue
- 141.6 Malignant neoplasm of lingual tonsil
- 141.8 Malignant neoplasm of tongue, other sites
- 141.9 Malignant neoplasm of tongue, NOS
- 145.2 Malignant neoplasm of hard palate
- 145.3 Malignant neoplasm of soft palate
- 145.4 Malignant neoplasm of uvula
- 145.6 Malignant neoplasm of retromolar trigone
- 145.8 Malignant neoplasm, oral cavity, other sites, overlapping
- 145.9 Malignant neoplasm, of oral cavity, NOS
- 146.0 Malignant neoplasm of tonsil
- 146.1 Malignant neoplasm of tonsillar fossa
- 146.2 Malignant neoplasm of tonsillar pillars
- 146.3 Malignant neoplasm of vallecula
- 146.4 Malignant neoplasm epiglottis (free edge), A-E folds
- 146.5 Malignant neoplasm junctional region (A-E folds & pharyngoepiglottic fold)
- 146.6 Malignant neoplasm of lateral wall oropharynx
- 146.7 Malignant neoplasm oropharynx, other sites, overlapping
- 146.8 Malignant neoplasm posterior wall oropharynx
- 146.9 Malignant neoplasm oropharynx, NOS
- 147.0 Malignant neoplasm superior wall, nasopharynx
- 147.1 Malignant neoplasm posterior wall, nasopharynx
- 147.2 Malignant neoplasm lateral wall, nasopharynx
- 147.3 Malignant neoplasm anterior wall, nasopharynx
- 147.8 Malignant neoplasm nasopharynx, other sites, overlapping
- 147.9 Malignant neoplasm nasopharynx, NOS
- 148.0 Malignant neoplasm hypopharynx, postcricoid region
- 148.1 Malignant neoplasm of pyriform sinus



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- 148.2 Malignant neoplasm A-E fold, hypopharyngeal aspect
- 148.3 Malignant neoplasm posterior hypopharyngeal wall
- 148.8 Malignant neoplasm hypopharynx, other sites, overlapping
- 148.9 Malignant neoplasm hypopharynx, NOS
- 149.0 Malignant neoplasm of pharynx, NOS
- 149.1 Malignant neoplasm of Waldeyer's ring
- 149.8 Malignant neoplasm lips, oral cavity, and pharynx, NOS
- 149.9 Malignant neoplasm-defined sites within the lip
- 150.0 Malignant neoplasm of cervical esophagus
- 160.0 Malignant neoplasm of nasal cavity
- 160.1 Malignant neoplasm auditory tube, middle ear, mastoid
- 160.2 Malignant neoplasm of maxillary sinus
- 160.3 Malignant neoplasm of ethmoid sinus
- 160.4 Malignant neoplasm of frontal sinus
- 160.5 Malignant neoplasm of sphenoid sinus
- 160.8 Malignant neoplasm sinuses, other sites, overlapping
- 160.9 Malignant neoplasm sinuses, NOS
- 161.0 Malignant neoplasm of glottic larynx
- 161.1 Malignant neoplasm of supraglottic larynx
- 161.2 Malignant neoplasm of subglottic larynx
- 161.3 Malignant neoplasm of laryngeal cartilages
- 161.8 Malignant neoplasm larynx, other sites, overlapping
- 161.9 Malignant neoplasm of larynx, NOS
- 162.0 Malignant neoplasm of trachea
- 172 Malignant melanoma
- 193 Malignant neoplasm of thyroid gland
- 194.1 Malignant neoplasm of parathyroid gland
- 196.0 Malignancy of lymph nodes, head & neck
- 199.1 Malignant neoplasm, unspecified site
- 210.1 Benign neoplasm of tongue



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- 210.4 Benign neoplasm of mouth, unspecified
- 210.6 Benign neoplasm of oropharynx
- 210.7 Benign neoplasm of nasopharynx
- 210.8 Benign neoplasm of hypopharynx
- 210.9 Benign neoplasm of pharynx, unspecified
- 211.0 Benign neoplasm of esophagus
- 212.0 Benign neoplasm of nasal cavity, middle ear & sinuses
- 212.1 Laryngeal papillomatosis
- 212.2 Benign neoplasm of trachea
- 226 Benign neoplasm of thyroid
- 230.0 Malignant neoplasm in-situ oral cavity, lip, pharynx
- 231.0 Malignant neoplasm in-situ, larynx
- 231.1 Malignant neoplasm in-situ, trachea
- 231.8 Malignant neoplasm in-situ, nasal, sinus
- 235.1 Neoplasm of uncertain behavior, lip, oral cavity, pharynx
- 235.6 Neoplasm of uncertain behavior, larynx
- 237.3 Paraganglioma
- 238.1 Neoplasm of uncertain behavior, connective & other soft tissues
- 240.0 Goiter, specified as simple
- 240.9 Goiter, unspecified
- 241.0 Nontoxic uninodular goiter
- 241.1 Nontoxic multinodular goiter
- 241.9 Unspecified nontoxic nodular goiter
- 242.0 Toxic diffuse goiter
- 242.1 Toxic uninodular goiter
- 242.2 Toxic multinodular goiter
- 242.2 Toxic nodular goiter, unspecified
- 307.0 Stuttering
- 349.81 CSF rhinorrhea
- 350.2 Atypical facial pain



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- 352.0 Disorders of olfaction
- 381.10 Chronic otitis media
- 381.19 Other chronic serous otitis media
- 381.29 Other chronic mucoid otitis media
- 381.20 Chronic mucoid otitis media
- 381.50 Eustachian salpingitis
- 381.51 Acute Eustachian salpingitis
- 381.52 Chronic Eustachian salpingitis
- 381.60 Eustachian tube obstruction, unspecified
- 381.61 Eustachian tube obstruction, osseous
- 381.62 Eustachian tube obstruction, intrinsic cartnous
- 381.63 Eustachian tube obstruction, extrinsic cartnous
- 385.10 Adhesive middle ear disease
- 462 Sore throat, acute pharyngitis
- 464.00 Acute laryngitis, without mention of obstruction
- 464.01 Acute laryngitis, with obstruction
- 464.10 Acute tracheitis, without mention of obstruction
- 464.11 Acute tracheitis, with obstruction
- 464.20 Acute laryngotracheitis, without mention of obstruction
- 464.21 Acute laryngotracheitis, with obstruction
- 464.30 Acute epiglottitis, without mention of obstruction
- 464.31 Acute epiglottitis, with obstruction
- 464.4 Croup
- 472.1 Chronic pharyngitis
- 472.2 Chronic nasopharyngitis
- 474.00 Recurrent or chronic tonsillitis
- 474.01 Chronic adenoiditis
- 474.02 Chronic tonsillitis and adenoiditis
- 474.10 Hypertrophic tonsils/adenoids
- 474.11 Hypertrophic tonsils



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- 474.12 Hypertrophic adenoids
- 474.8 Chronic tonsil/adenoid conditions— calculus, cicatrix, ulcer, tags
- 474.9 Unspecified chronic disease of tonsils and adenoids
- 476.0 Chronic laryngitis
- 476.1 Chronic laryngotracheitis
- 478.19 Other diseases of nasal cavity & sinuses
- 478.21 Cellulitis of pharynx or nasopharynx
- 478.22 Parapharyngeal abscess
- 478.24 Retropharyngeal abscess
- 478.25 Edema of pharynx or nasopharynx
- 478.26 Cyst of pharynx or nasopharynx
- 478.29 Nasopharyngeal stenosis or abscess
- 478.31 Unilateral vocal cord/laryngeal paresis
- 478.32 Unilateral vocal cord/laryngeal paralysis
- 478.33 Bilateral vocal cord/laryngeal paresis
- 478.34 Bilateral vocal cord/laryngeal paralysis
- 478.4 Laryngeal/vocal cord polyp
- 478.5 Other diseases of vocal cords (nodules, leukoplakia, granuloma, abscess)
- 478.6 Edema of larynx
- 478.71 Cellulitis & perichondritis of larynx
- 478.74 Subglottic/laryngeal stenosis
- 478.75 Laryngeal spasm
- 478.8 Upper respiratory tract hypersensitivity reaction
- 518.81 Respiratory failure
- 528.3 Cellulitis and abscess, oral cavity
- 530.11 Reflux esophagitis
- 530.3 Stricture & stenosis of esophagus
- 530.82 Esophageal hemorrhage
- 530.84 Tracheoesophageal fistula
- 710.3 Dermatomyositis



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- 714.0 Rheumatoid arthritis
- 748.0 Choanal atresia
- 748.2 Laryngeal web
- 748.3 Laryngotracheal anomalies, other (e.g., laryngomalacia, tracheomalacia, laryngocoele, clefts, congenital stenosis)
- 750.27 Pharyngeal diverticulum
- 750.29 Velopharyngeal incompetence
- 750.3 Tracheoesophageal fistula, esophageal atresia and stenosis
- 780.53 Obstructive sleep apnea
- 781.1 Disturbances of taste and smell
- 784.0 Headache
- 784.1 Throat pain (odynophagia)
- 784.2 Mass, head or neck
- 784.41 Aphonia
- 784.49 Hoarseness—unspecified
- 784.5 Dysarthria, dysphasia, slurred speech
- 784.7 Epistaxis
- 784.8 Hemorrhage from throat
- 784.9 Choking, sneezing, halitosis, mouth breathing
- 786.1 Stridor
- 786.2 Cough
- 786.3 Hemoptysis
- 787.2 Dysphagia
- 933.0 Foreign body, pharynx
- 933.1 Foreign body, larynx
- 935.1 Foreign body, esophagus
- V10.9 History of malignant neoplasm
- V15.82 History of tobacco use
- 786.09 respiratory distress
- 519.8 airway obstruction
- 528.9 acquired VPI



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- 786.06 tachypnea
- 519.10 tracheomalacia
- 518.83 chronic respiratory failure
- 786.07 wheezing
- 782.5 cyanosis (In pediatrics)
- 723.1 neck pain
- 934.0 Aspiration
- 327.23 Obstructive sleep apnea
- 780.57 Unspecified sleep apnea

**Patient Information**

Fiberoptic laryngoscopy and nasopharyngoscopy are diagnostic procedures using a fiberoptic or rigid endoscope usually done in the office. The endoscope is attached to a bright light to look into the nasal passages and back of the throat as far down as the voice box. The instrument is usually passed through the nose after a nasal spray is used to shrink and numb the nasal membranes. This frequently performed examination allows for a more thorough look at the nose, mouth and throat in order to diagnose problems that are otherwise difficult to visualize. Complications associated with this examination are rare and include temporary sneezing, coughing, gagging, and bleeding.

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