Lutathera (lutetium Lu 177 dotatate)

HCPCS A9513 · Radioligand therapy · SSTR+ GEP-NETs

CareCost Estimate · Q2 2026
Reviewed May 22, 2026

THE 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO BILL A9513

HCPCS
A9513
1 mCi = 1 unit (A-code, not J-code)

STANDARD DOSE
200 mCi (7.4 GBq)
200 units · q8w × 4 cycles

ADMIN CPT
79101
Radiopharm IV therapy (NOT 96365 / 96413)

COMPANION PET
A9587 / A9591
Ga-68 / Cu-64 dotatate — REQUIRED before cycle 1

AMINO ACID CO-INFUSION
Required
30 min pre → ≥3 hr post; renal protection

COURSE COST (WAC)
~$224,000
~$56K/dose × 4 cycles

TOP ERROR: Billing CPT 96365 (therapeutic IV) or 96413 (chemo IV) instead of 79101 (radiopharm therapy). Lutathera is a nuclear medicine therapy — use 79101.

DOSING & SCHEDULE (4-CYCLE COURSE, 32 WEEKS)

CYCLE	WEEK	DRUG LINE	ADMIN	COMPANION
Pre-cycle 1	Week −2 to 0	A9587 (Ga-68) or A9591 (Cu-64)	CPT 78814/15/16 (PET)	SSTR+ documentation (uptake ≥ liver)
Cycle 1	Week 0	A9513 × 200 units, modifier JZ	CPT 79101	Amino acid IV pre/post
Cycle 2	Week 8	A9513 × 200 units, modifier JZ	CPT 79101	Amino acid IV pre/post
Cycle 3	Week 16	A9513 × 200 units, modifier JZ	CPT 79101	Amino acid IV pre/post
Cycle 4	Week 24	A9513 × 200 units, modifier JZ	CPT 79101	Amino acid IV pre/post

ICD-10 (WELL-DIFFERENTIATED GEP-NET)

C7A.010 – C7A.012	Small intestine (duodenum / jejunum / ileum) carcinoid
C7A.020 – C7A.026	Appendix, colon, rectum carcinoid (midgut/hindgut)
C7A.090	Foregut / other carcinoid
C25.4	Malignant NET of pancreas (pNET)
C77–C79	Secondary metastatic codes (paired)
C7A.1	**NOT eligible** (poorly differentiated NEC)

COMPANION DIAGNOSTICS

A9587	Ga-68 dotatate (NETSPOT, 0.1 mCi)
A9591	Cu-64 dotatate (Detectnet, 1 mCi)
CPT 78814/78815/78816	PET tumor imaging (limited / WB / WB+CT)

CONCURRENT SSAS (CONTINUED BETWEEN CYCLES)

J2354	Sandostatin LAR (octreotide LAR) 30 mg IM
J1930	Somatuline Depot (lanreotide) 120 mg SC

TOP 4 DENIAL DRIVERS

#	DENIAL REASON	FIX
1	Missing Ga-68 / Cu-64 dotatate PET documentation	Document receptor uptake ≥ normal liver from companion PET; submit PET report with PA
2	Wrong admin CPT (96365 / 96413)	Resubmit with 79101 nuclear med therapy admin
3	Amino acid co-infusion not documented	Add amino acid IV line + chart start (30 min pre) and stop (≥3 hr post) times
4	Prior SSA history missing	Document prior Sandostatin LAR or Somatuline Depot regimen, duration, and reason for escalation

Site of care: Hospital outpatient nuclear medicine department only (POS 22 or 19). No office or AIC pathway — AU credentialing required. **OPPS pass-through** typically applies (status indicator G); verify Addendum B each quarter.

Sister product to know: Pluvicto (lutetium Lu 177 vipivotide tetraxetan, A9607) — same Lu-177 isotope, PSMA-targeted, mCRPC indication, q6w × 6 cycles. Don't cross the wires on HCPCS.