

The Bulletin

This monthly bulletin includes recent changes to our medical policies and reimbursement policies. It is a supplement to our bimonthly provider newsletter, *The Connection*. **Note:** Medication and dental policy updates are published in *The Connection*.

Our provider website includes [monthly summaries of changes](#) to our reimbursement, medication and dental policies, pre-authorization requirements, *Administrative Manual* and programs or initiatives that impact your office.

Medical policies

Disclaimer: View the [terms and conditions](#) of using our *Medical Policy Manual*.

Commercial

Changes effective June 1, 2022

Surgery

- Left-Atrial Appendage Closure Devices for Stroke Prevention in Atrial Fibrillation (#SUR195)
 - Added coverage for the Amplatzer Amulet device when policy criteria are met

Changes effective July 1, 2022

Genetic Testing

- Noninvasive Prenatal Testing to Determine Fetal Aneuploidies and Microdeletions using Cell-Free DNA (#GT44)
 - Updated policy to consider sex chromosome aneuploidy testing medically necessary for member contracts subject to Washington's State Board of Health Rule (WAC 246-680)

Laboratory

- Drug Testing for Substance Use and Pain Management (#LAB68)
 - Added Q3 2022 quarterly code update regarding CPT 0328U to the criteria as not medically necessary

Medicine

- New and Emerging Medical Technologies and Procedures (#MED149)
 - Updated the policy to align with the Q3 2022 quarterly code update that addresses new investigational medical technologies, represented by CPT 0714T-0716T, 0723T-0729T, 0731T and 0732T and HCPCS G0308, G0309
 - Removed the following codes because they are being added to the following medical policies:
 - CPT 0621T, 0622; *Laser Trabeculotomy and Trabeculostomy* (#SUR227)
 - CPT 0664T, 0665T, 0666T, 0667T, 0668T, 0669T, 0670T; *Uterus Transplant* (#TRA19)
 - HCPCS C9781; *Subacromial Balloon Placement* (#SUR226)

Surgery

- Rhinoplasty (#SUR12.28)
 - Revised policy criteria to clarify the policy applies to initial or revision rhinoplasty
 - Removed the requirement for photographs demonstrating obstruction; advanced imaging continues to be required to demonstrate bony obstruction
- Laser Trabeculotomy and Trabeculostomy (#SUR227)
 - New medical policy considers excimer laser trabeculostomy/ trabeculotomy (ELT) and femtosecond laser trabeculotomy (FLT) to be investigational
- Subacromial Balloon Placement (#SUR226)
 - New medical policy considers the use of subacromial balloon spacers to be investigational

Transplant

- Uterus Transplant (#TRA19)
 - New medical policy considers uterus transplantation to be investigational

Changes effective October 1, 2022

Surgery

- Leadless Cardiac Pacemakers (#SUR217)
 - Adding Aveir system as investigational
- Ventral (Including Incisional) Hernia Repair (#SUR12.03)
 - Revising medical policy title; policy was previously called *Ventral Hernia Repair*
 - Adding definition regarding hernia-associated pain and documentation requirements

- Updating policy guidelines regarding component separation technique
- Updating throughout to clarify the policy applies to incisional ventral hernias

Medicare Advantage

Changes effective July 1, 2022

Durable Medical Equipment

- External Insulin Infusion Pumps (#M-DME86)
 - Removed HCPCS A4238 from the policy and pre-authorization list

Medicine

- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) (#M-MED136)
 - Revised language in the Required Documentation section for clarification: "comparative 3D versus IMRT dose/volume histograms in color AND a completed summary analysis (table preferred; with preauthorization request)"

Radiology

- Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (#M-RAD27)
 - New Medicare Advantage medical policy

Surgery

- Laser Trabeculotomy and Trabeculostomy (#M-SUR227)
 - New Medicare Advantage medical policy
- Subacromial Balloon Placement (#M-SUR226)
 - New Medicare Advantage medical policy

Transplant

- Uterus Transplant (#M-TRA19)
 - New Medicare Advantage medical policy

Join our medical policy discussion

We welcome your input and feedback as we draft our medical policies. [Join our email reviewer list](#). While we prefer to receive input as policies are developed, we also have a formal process that allows you to submit additional information, such as clinical trial results, that may warrant a policy review.

Recent updates and archived medical policies

[Recent updates and archived medical policies](#) may include revisions that will be published in the next issue of *The Bulletin*.

Reimbursement policies

There were no recent commercial or Medicare Advantage reimbursement policy updates.

Disclaimer: View the [terms and conditions](#) of using our *Reimbursement Policy Manual*.

Join our reimbursement policy discussion

Comments from physicians and other health care professionals regarding reimbursement policies are welcome. If you have a comment regarding a reimbursement policy, please complete the [Reimbursement Policy Feedback Form](#).

Verify your provider information

Providing up-to-date and accurate information about the providers in each of our networks is critical for our members to access care and a compliance requirement for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Medicare Advantage plans.

Validating provider directory content

Please [follow these steps](#) to review the information about your practice every 90 days. **Please respond timely to any requests from us for verification of your directory data.**

If your clinic or facility submits provider rosters to us, please submit changes, corrections, additions or terminations immediately so we can update our directories as soon as possible. **Your roster must be validated and reviewed in its entirety at least once per quarter.**

We appreciate your assistance in keeping information about your practice up to date.

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