



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM5022

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Clarification on Billing Requirements for Percutaneous Transluminal Angioplasty (PTA) Concurrent with the Placement of a Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved Carotid Stent

Key Words

MM5022, CR5022, PTA, Carotid, Stent, Percutaneous, Angioplasty, CR3489, MM3489, FDA-approved, R1042CP, R53NCD, CR5667, R1315CP

Provider Types Affected

Providers, physicians, and suppliers that bill Medicare Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs) and carriers for their services

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is March 17, 2005.
- The implementation date is October 2, 2006.
- MLN Matters article MM5022 is based on Change Request (CR) 5022, which contains instructions that must be implemented to correctly process carotid stenting claims.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has additionally updated the carotid artery stenting (CAS) facilities "approved facilities" website link in Publication 100-03, *The National Coverage Determinations Manual*. The list is now available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareApprovedFacilitie/CASF/list.asp> on the CMS website.
- Claims that are being billed for Category B Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) studies and post-approval studies, per CR1660 (effective July 1, 2001) and CR3489 (effective October 12, 2004), respectively, are not subject to the same billing requirements as indicated in CR3811 (Effective March 17, 2005). The links to CR1660 and the MLN Matters articles relating to CR3489 and CR3811 can be found in the Important Links section below.
- CMS created a new section in the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual* specific to carotid stents. This new section in the manual attachment to CR5022, (Publication 100-04, *The Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 32, Sections 160.1-160.3) provides more information about PTA for implanting the carotid stent. (This includes information on CR1660, CR 3489 and CR3811.)

- PTA involves inserting a balloon catheter into a narrow or occluded blood vessel to recanalize and dilate the vessel by inflating the balloon.
- The objective of PTA is to improve the blood flow through the diseased segment of a vessel so that vessel patency is increased and embolization is decreased. With the development and use of balloon angioplasty for treatment of atherosclerotic and other vascular stenoses, PTA (with and without the placement of a stent) is a widely used technique for dilating lesions of peripheral, renal, and coronary arteries.
- The manual attachment to CR5022, Transmittal 53, (Publication 100-03, *The Medicare National Coverage Determinations Manual*, Chapter 1, Part 1, Section 20.7) provides more information about the nationally covered indications for PTA concurrent with carotid stent placement, and for facilities accepted for services related to CAS with embolic protection. This is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R53NCD.pdf> on the CMS website.

Category B IDE Study Claims and Post-approval Study Claims

- Effective for dates of service on or after March 17, 2005, the following claims are not subject to the approved facility list. These are CAS claims:
 - Billed under a Category B IDE study (identified by a six-digit IDE number preceded by a "G," i.e., G123456); or
 - Billed under an FDA-approved post-approval study (identified by a six-digit PMA number preceded by a "P," i.e., P123456); or
 - Previously denied due to the unintended application of the "approved" facility edit created per CR3811 that are brought to the FI's or carrier's attention will be adjusted (per CR1660 for Category B IDE Study Claims, and CR3489 for Post-approval Study Claims).

CAS with Embolic Protection Claims

- Effective for dates of service on or after March 17, 2005, CAS with embolic protection claims will be paid only if they are from facilities listed on the approved list (see <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareApprovedFacilitie/CASF/list.asp>). CAS with embolic protection claims from non-approved facilities will be rejected rather than denied. (CR3811)
- Effective for dates of service on or after March 17, 2005, CAS **with** embolic protection claims that contain **procedure code 37216** (transcatheter placement of intravascular stent(s) without distal embolic protection) will **not** be paid. CMS has deemed procedure code 37216 a non-covered service for Medicare purposes.

CR5667 Changes

- MM5022 was revised on August 30, 2007, to add a reference to CR5667 (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1315CP.pdf>).
- CR5667 adds International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification diagnosis code 433.11, occlusion of the carotid artery with infarct, to the list of payable claims for PTA to ensure all eligible Medicare beneficiaries are covered.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5022.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instructions (CR5022) issued regarding this change may be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1042CP.pdf> and at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R53NCD.pdf> on the CMS website.

CR1660 (Claims Processing Instructions for Clinical Trials on Carotid Stenting with Category B Investigational Device Exemptions (IDEs)) can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/Downloads/AB0174.pdf> on the CMS website.

MM3489 (Percutaneous Transluminal Angioplasty (PTA)) can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3489.pdf> on the CMS website.

MM3811 (*Expansion of Coverage for Percutaneous Transluminal Angioplasty (PTA)*) is located at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3811.pdf> on the CMS website.

MM5667 (Clarification of Percutaneous Transluminal Angioplasty (PTA) Billing Requirements Issued in

CR3811) may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5667.pdf> on the CMS website.

Providers may contact their local FI or carrier if they have questions about this issue. Their toll-free phone number can be found by going to

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.