



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM3796

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Related CR #: 3796

### *Cochlear Implantation*

### Key Words

CR3796, MM3796, R601CP, Cochlear, Implants, Pre-linguistic, Post-Linguistic, Sensorineural, Hearing, Trial, Study, Clinical

### Provider Types Affected

Physicians and providers billing Medicare Carriers and Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs) for cochlear implantation services to Medicare patients

### Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is April 4, 2005.
- The implementation date is July 25, 2005.
- MM3796 was revised on August 1, 2005, to correct the statement in item 3 at the top of page 3 to reflect the correct usage of the QV modifier.
- Medicare will cover treatment of bilateral pre- or post-linguistic, sensorineural, moderate-to-profound hearing loss for individuals with hearing test scores equal to or less than 40% correct in the best aided listening condition of tape-recorded tests of open-set sentence recognition.
- The following information relating to cochlear implantation may be found on pages 2 through 4 of MLN Matters article MM3796:
  - The policy guidelines for cochlear implantation coverage;
  - The coverage criteria for an acceptable clinical trial/study;
  - The billing requirements for cochlear implantation; and
  - A listing of Healthcare Common Procedural Coding System (HCPCS) associated with cochlear implantation.

## Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3796.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R601CP.pdf>