



News Flash - Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to announce that a new educational resource has been posted to the PQRI webpage on the CMS website and is available for ordering through the Medicare Learning Network product ordering system. The *2008 PQRI Reporting Options Quick Reference Chart* is a two-sided laminated reference chart, which gives eligible professionals and practice staff a quick reference to the new reporting options available for 2008 PQRI with their corresponding alternative reporting periods. To access this new educational resource, visit <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI> on the CMS website and click on the Educational Resources tab. Once on the *Educational Resources* page, scroll down to the "Downloads" section and click on the "2008 PQRI Quick Reference Chart" link. To order the laminated product, visit http://cms.meridianksi.com/kc/main/kc_frame.asp?kc_ident=kc0001&loc=5 on the CMS website and click on the 2008 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) Reporting Quick Option Reference Chart (ICN# 900843) (May 2008) link.

MLN Matters Number: MM6137

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6137

Related CR Release Date: July 11, 2008

Effective Date: May 12, 2008

Related CR Transmittal #: R87NCD

Implementation Date: August 11, 2008

Intracranial Percutaneous Transluminal Angioplasty (PTA) with Stenting

Provider Types Affected

Physicians and providers who may wish to submit claims to Medicare Carriers, fiscal intermediaries (FIs) and Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) for PTA with stenting.

What Providers Need to Know

Be aware that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reviewed the evidence and on May 12, 2008 posted a final decision memorandum following reconsideration of its National Coverage Determination (NCD) on PTA with intracranial stent placement at section 20.7.B.5 of the Medicare NCD Manual. With CR6137, CMS reaffirms its existing NCD with no changes, and will continue to cover PTA and stenting of intracranial arteries for the treatment of cerebral artery stenosis ≥ 50 percent in patients with intracranial

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atherosclerotic disease when furnished in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved protocols governing Category B Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) clinical trials. CMS will continue its national non-coverage for all other indications for PTA with or without stenting to treat obstructive lesions of the vertebral and cerebral arteries.

Background

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6137, which responds to a request on August 24, 2007 by the manufacturer to reconsider and expand coverage to include Coverage with Evidence Development (CED) for intracranial stenting and angioplasty for patients in the IDE clinical trials.

Additional Information

If you have questions, please contact your Medicare Carrier, FI, or A/B MAC, at their toll-free number which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

You may see the official instruction (CR6137) issued to your Medicare Carrier, FI, or A/B MAC, by going to <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R87NCD.pdf> on the CMS website. Section 20.7 of the Medicare NCD Manual is attached to CR6137.

You may also review MM5432 which preceded this article and provides the previous CMS response to PTA with stenting at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5432.pdf> on the CMS website.

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