

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



In September 2012, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the availability of a new electronic mailing list for those who refer Medicare beneficiaries for Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS). Referral agents play a critical role in providing information and services to Medicare beneficiaries. To ensure you give Medicare patients the most current DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program information, CMS strongly encourages you to review the information sent from this new electronic mailing list. In addition, please share the information you receive from the mailing list and the link to the ["mailing list for referral agents"](#) subscriber webpage with others who refer Medicare beneficiaries for DMEPOS. Thank you for signing up!

MLN Matters® Number: MM8537

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8537

Related CR Release Date: November 29, 2013

Effective Date: January 1, 2014

Related CR Transmittal #: R2827CP

Implementation Date: January 6, 2014

Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) - Implementation of Permanent CPT Code

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) services to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8537 which informs MACs that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is retiring the remaining temporary CPT code 0318T and replacing it with permanent CPT code 33366 effective January 1, 2014. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

Disclaimer

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Background

Transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR - also known as TAVI or transcatheter aortic valve implantation) is a new technology for use in treating aortic stenosis. A bioprosthetic valve is inserted percutaneously using a catheter and implanted in the orifice of the native aortic valve. The procedure is performed in a cardiac catheterization lab or a hybrid operating room/cardiac catheterization lab with advanced quality imaging and with the ability to safely accommodate complicated cases that may require conversion to an open surgical procedure. The interventional cardiologist and cardiac surgeon jointly participate in the intra-operative technical aspects of TAVR. On May 1, 2012, CMS issued a National Coverage Determination (NCD) covering TAVR under Coverage with Evidence Development (CED). The policy is available at <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/ncd-details.aspx?NCDId=355>.

CR8537 is an update to CR 8168, dated January 7, 2013. CR8168 implemented replacement codes for TAVR claims with dates of service on and after January 1, 2013, and contains more detailed billing instructions for TAVR services.

Specifically, for dates of service on or after January 1, 2014, CMS is retiring the remaining temporary CPT code 0318T - Transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR/TAVI) with prosthetic valve; transapical approach (e.g., left thoracotomy) with permanent CPT code 33366 - Transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR/TAVI) with prosthetic valve; transapical exposure (e.g., left thoracotomy). This coding change appears in the January 2014 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database and Integrated Outpatient Code Editor updates.

Providers should also note that if a TAVR claim is denied because a Place of Service (POS) code other than POS code 21 was used, the following messages will also be used:

- Claim Adjustment Reason Code (CARC) 58: "Treatment was deemed by the payer to have been rendered in an inappropriate or invalid place of service. NOTE: Refer to the 835 Healthcare Policy Identification Segment (loop 2110 Service Payment Information REF), if present."

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 8537 issued to your MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2827CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

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