



ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update
Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
ICD-10-PCS Topics Clarifications, Questions and Answers
Fall 2026

CLARIFICATION

1) Recordings - Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Procedure Code Update

Recordings are available on the CMS website at <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coding-billing/icd-10-codes/icd-10-coordination-maintenance-committee-materials> for only a subset of the topics from the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Procedure Code Update. While slide presentations are available for all procedure code topics from the Fall 2026 Update on the CMS website (excluding Section X and the Addenda and Reference Key Updates), there is no recorded overview of the slide presentation available for Topic 10.

Please note Topics 18-23 are procedure code requests that involve a new technology add-on payment (NTAP) application for the administration of a therapeutic agent. Consistent with the approach we have utilized as of March 2021 for procedure code requests that involve a new technology add-on payment (NTAP) application for the administration of a therapeutic agent, there is no recorded overview of these slide presentations.

Members of the public should send any questions or comments related to the procedure code topics that are under consideration for an April 1, 2027 implementation or an October 1, 2027 implementation to the CMS mailbox at: ICDProcedureCodeRequest@cms.hhs.gov by the respective deadline.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Below we provide the responses to questions or comments submitted for the procedure code topics made available in association with the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update.

Question:

In Topic # 09 – Sirolimus-Eluting Balloon Catheter for Percutaneous Coronary Intervention, CMS advises to separately code the non-coated balloon angioplasty performed to dilate the target vessel and prepare the lesion for balloon delivery of sirolimus. Should this step really be separately reported? ICD-10-PCS Guideline B3.1.b, states “components of a procedure specified in the root operation definition or explanation as integral to that root operation are not coded separately.” Additionally, in cases where a stent is placed following

the use of the sirolimus-eluting balloon catheter, would the guidance be to report both the dilation twice-once to identify the balloon and once to identify the intraluminal device placement?

CMS Response:

PCI procedures involving the SELUTION Sustained Limus Release™ (SLR™) Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty (PTCA) Drug-Eluting Balloon (DEB) begin with the physician gaining arterial access (arm or groin) using standard interventional techniques. Under fluoroscopic guidance, a guidewire is advanced into the targeted coronary vessel, across the stenotic lesion. To prepare the lesion for treatment, a non-drug coated balloon angioplasty catheter is advanced and used to dilate the target vessel.

The SELUTION SLR™ PTCA DEB, which has a drug coating that is applied to the surface consisting of a proprietary formulation of the active pharmaceutical ingredient sirolimus, poly (lactic-co-glycolic acid) or PLGA, is delivered to the prepared lesion and positioned using the balloon's radiopaque markers for reference. The DEB is inflated to the reference vessel diameter using the appropriate pressure. DEB inflation is maintained for a minimum of 30 seconds and to an optimal target of one minute as tolerated. Once vessel patency is confirmed, the hemostasis valve is opened, and negative pressure is applied to the DEB to withdraw the device.

As described in current coding on page 42 of the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update Materials, facilities can describe the use of a sirolimus-eluting balloon catheter in PCI procedures:

- 1) Code the non-drug coated balloon angioplasty procedure performed to dilate the target vessel and prepare the lesion for balloon delivery of sirolimus using device value Z No Device and the appropriate body part value in table 027, Dilation of Heart and Great Vessels.
- 2) Report the delivery of sirolimus using a percutaneous balloon delivery system with code 3E073GC (Introduction of other therapeutic substance into coronary artery, percutaneous approach).
- 3) Separately, code the placement of any stents using the applicable code in table 027, Dilation of Heart and Great Vessels.

As the dilation of the target vessel using the non-drug coated balloon angioplasty catheter to prepare the lesion for treatment is not specified in the definition of the root operation Introduction, and therefore not integral to that root operation, all three codes are needed to fully describe the use of a sirolimus-eluting balloon catheter in PCI procedures.

Question: In *Topic # 17 - Addenda and Reference Key Updates*, when reporting coronary vessel plaque modification for lesion preparation in percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) procedures using specialty balloons, CMS states that coronary vessel plaque modification for lesion preparation using cutting, scoring, or super high-pressure balloons has a distinct surgical objective. However, the materials do not clearly identify that objective or explain how it differs from the objective of conventional balloon angioplasty.

CMS Response: Coronary artery calcification is a common finding in patients with advanced atherosclerosis and represents an important determinant of procedural success during percutaneous coronary intervention.¹ Hard, severely, calcified plaques increase arterial wall stiffness, resist standard balloon expansion and impair the delivery of devices, leading to suboptimal stent delivery, deployment, and expansion which increase the risk for in-stent restenosis and stent thrombosis. Although conventional balloon pretreatment techniques aim to mitigate this risk by modifying the lesion before stent placement, many lesions remain resistant to conventional strategies, due to the severity of calcification.

To stop these issues and their prognostic implications from happening, there have been several substantial technological advancements in calcium modification methods in recent years, and numerous plaque modification techniques such as atherectomy, intravascular lithotripsy (IVL), and specialty balloons have been developed.² The appropriate use of these devices is essential to perform safe and effective PCIs on calcified coronary artery lesions. The characteristics of calcium as seen on the intracoronary imaging modalities can contribute to the selection of the most adequate plaque modification technique.

Plaque modification techniques such as atherectomy and IVL are currently captured in the ICD-10-PCS classification. As such, CMS believes that coronary vessel plaque modification for lesion preparation using cutting, scoring, or super high-pressure balloons has a distinct surgical objective, which is to modify severely calcified lesions prior to PCI, and should also be classified in the data to tract outcomes.

Question: In *Topic # 17 - Addenda and Reference Key Updates*, when reporting coronary vessel plaque modification for lesion preparation in

¹ Kałmucki P, Skonieczna P, Baszko A, Siminiak T. Management of Calcified Coronary Lesions-A Review of Plaque Modification Methods. *J Clin Med*. 2025 Dec 3;14(23):8566. doi: 10.3390/jcm14238566. PMID: 41375870; PMCID: PMC12693342.

² Shah M, Najam O, Bhindi R, De Silva K. Calcium Modification Techniques in Complex Percutaneous Coronary Intervention. *Circ Cardiovasc Interv*. 2021 May;14(5):e009870. doi: 10.1161/CIRCINTERVENTIONS.120.009870. Epub 2021 Jan 14. PMID: 33441017.

percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) procedures using specialty balloons, in cases where a stent is placed following the use of a specialized balloon, would the guidance be to report both the dilation twice-once to identify the balloon and once to identify the intraluminal device placement?

CMS Response:

Yes. As described on page 82 of the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update Materials, in Medical and Surgical section table 027, Dilation of Heart and Great Vessels, CMS is proposing to create new qualifier values 7 Cutting Balloon, 8 Scoring Balloon, 9 Super High-Pressure Balloon, A Cutting Balloon, Bifurcation, B Scoring Balloon, Bifurcation, and C Super High-Pressure Balloon, Bifurcation applied to the body part values 0 Coronary Artery, One Artery, 1 Coronary Artery, Two Arteries, 2 Coronary Artery, Three Arteries and 3 Coronary Artery, Four or More Arteries, the percutaneous approach and the device value Z No Device. When appropriate, separately assign a code for the placement of any stents using the applicable code in table 027, Dilation of Heart and Great Vessels.

Question:

In *Topic # 17 - Addenda and Reference Key Updates*, when reporting coronary vessel plaque modification for lesion preparation in percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) procedures using specialty balloons, the update materials do not explain how the specific type of specialty balloon used is documented in electronic health records, or whether that documentation would enable coding professionals to distinguish among balloon types and assign the appropriate qualifier value.

CMS Response:

As described on pages 83 and 84 of the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update Materials, the following specialty balloons are used in PCI: 1. Cutting Balloons, such as the Wolverine™ (Boston Scientific); 2. Scoring Balloons, such as the AngioSculpt Evo (Philips), Scoreflex Scoring PTCA Catheter (Abbott) or Lacrosse NSE Alpha™ (Braun); and 3. Super High-Pressure NC Balloons, such as the OPN NC (SIS Medical).

This list is not intended to be all inclusive. Documentation regarding the usage of specialty balloons will typically be found in the operative or cardiac intervention procedure note.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Question:

Where can we get the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update materials and slide presentations?

CMS Response:

The update materials and slide presentations for the procedure code topics made available in association with the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update are available on

the CMS website at <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coding-billing/icd-10-codes/icd-10-coordination-maintenance-committee-materials>.

Please join our [ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meetings Subscriber List](#) to receive information such as when materials have been made available and other ICD-10 related updates.

Question: When will the proposed ICD-10-PCS codes made available in association with the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update possibly be implemented?

CMS Response: As reflected in the update materials, the ICD-10-PCS code proposals made available in association with the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update are being considered for implementation on April 1, 2027 or October 1, 2027.

October 16, 2026 is the deadline for receipt of public comments on proposed new procedure codes and revisions made available in association with the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update being considered for implementation on April 1, 2027. November 13, 2026 is the deadline to submit comments for procedure code topics being considered for on October 1, 2027 implementation.

Question: CMS did not present the Fall 2026 ICD-10-PCS procedure code topics during a public meeting. Does the ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee have any updates on the Spring 2027 update?

CMS Response: Information regarding the Spring 2027 update will be made available on our CMS website at: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coding-billing/icd-10-codes/icd-10-coordination-maintenance-committee-materials> as well as announced through our [ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meetings Subscriber List](#).

Please join the [ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meetings Subscriber List](#) for updates.

Question: How do I join the ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meetings Subscriber List?

CMS Response: Instructions for joining the ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Meetings GovDelivery Subscriber List were included in the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update materials for the procedure code topics and are also available in the Downloads section of the CMS webpage at:

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coding-billing/icd-10-codes/icd-10-coordination-maintenance-committee-meetings>.

Question:

Do I get Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for reviewing the recordings and slide presentations of the Fall 2026 ICD-10 Coordination and Maintenance Committee Update?

CMS Response:

CMS is not an accrediting organization and does not award CEUs.

As reflected in the update materials, CEUs may be awarded by the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) or the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). If you have any questions concerning obtaining continuing education credits, please contact the respective organization, not CMS.