



National Coverage Determination 110.23: Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation

Related CR Release Date: May 9, 2024

MLN Matters Number: MM13604

Effective Date: March 6, 2024

Related Change Request (CR) Number: CR 13604

Implementation Date: October 7, 2024

Related CR Transmittal Numbers: [R12627CP](#)
& [R12627NCD](#)

Related CR Title: Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation (HSCT) for Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) National Coverage Determination (NCD) 110.23

Affected Providers

- Laboratory
- Physicians
- Suppliers
- Other providers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services they provide to Medicare patients

Action Needed

Make sure your billing staff knows about coverage for:

- HSCT using bone marrow, peripheral blood or umbilical cord blood stem cell products for Medicare patients
- All other indications for stem cell transplantation not otherwise specified

Background

HSCT is a process that includes mobilization, harvesting, and transplant of stem cells and the administration of high dose chemotherapy or radiotherapy prior to the actual transplant. The harvested stem cells are from either the patient (autologous) or a donor (allogeneic) and providers administer by intravenous infusion to the patient.

MDS are a heterogeneous group of hematologic disorders characterized by cytopenia (decreased number of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets) due to bone marrow failure and the potential development of acute myeloid leukemia (AML). The bone marrow doesn't produce enough healthy, functioning blood cells. Patients with MDS are often placed into risk groups based on the potential development of AML, which varies widely across MDS subtypes.

On March 6, 2024, CMS issued a final decision under NCD 110.23 expanding coverage for allogeneic HSCT using bone marrow, peripheral blood or umbilical cord blood stem cell products for Medicare patients with MDS who have 1 of these prognostic risk scores:

- ≥ 1.5 (Intermediate-2 or high) using the International Prognostic Scoring System (IPSS),
- ≥ 4.5 (high or very high) using the International Prognostic Scoring System - Revised (IPSS-R)
- ≥ 0.5 (high or very high) using the Molecular International Prognostic Scoring System (IPSS-M)

For these patients, the evidence demonstrates that the treatment is reasonable and necessary under Section 1862(a)(1)(A) of the [Social Security Act](#) (the Act).

Coding Instruction

As of March 6, 2024, we cover HSCT for MDS under NCD 110.23, provided the claim contains:

- HCPCS 38240 – professional claim
- ICD-10-PCS 30233X2, 30233X3, 30243X2 or 30243X3 – institutional claim on type of bill 11X
- One of the following ICD-10-CM codes: D46.A, D46.B, D46.C, D46.Z, D46.4, D46.9, D46.20, D46.21, D46.22 (Please note the existing PCS codes from CRs [9861](#) and [13507](#) apply to claims as well)
- One of the following ICD-10-PCS codes: 30233X2, 30233X3, 30243X2, 30243X3
- Modifier -KX to indicate that they have a qualifying prognostic risk score in their medical record (professional claims only)
- “CR13604” in FL 80 – Remarks on institutional claims to show they have a qualifying prognostic risk score in their medical record

Coverage of all other indications for stem cell transplantation not otherwise specified will be made by your local MAC under section 1862(a)(1)(A) of the Act.

Your MAC won't adjust previously processed claims unless you bring those claims to their attention.

More Information

We issued CR 13604 to your MAC as the official instruction for this change. The CR is in these 2 transmittals:

- Transmittal [R12627CP](#) updates billing instructions in Section 90.3.1 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 3
- Transmittal [R12627NCD](#) updates Section 110.23 of the Medicare NCD Manual, Chapter 1

For more information, [find your MAC's website](#).

Document History

Date of Change	Description
May 13, 2024	Initial article released.

View the [Medicare Learning Network® Content Disclaimer and Department of Health & Human Services Disclosure](#).

The Medicare Learning Network®, MLN Connects®, and MLN Matters® are registered trademarks of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS).