

MP.091.MPC- Intravascular Ultrasound for Coronary Vessels

Maryland Physicians Care considers **Intravascular Ultrasound (IVUS) for Coronary Vessels** medically necessary for either of the following indications:

1. IVUS of the coronary arteries (consistent with the 2011 ACCF/AHA Guidelines for Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) 5.4.2) is indicated for any of the following medical reasons:
 - a. To confirm clinical suspicion of a significant left main coronary artery stenosis when standard angiography is indeterminate;
 - b. To detect rapidly progressive cardiac allograft vasculopathy following heart transplant;
 - c. To determine the mechanism of stent thrombosis or restenosis;
 - d. To assess non-left main coronary arteries with angiographic intermediate stenosis (50-70%) to aid the decision whether or not to place a stent; or,
 - e. To assist in guidance of complex coronary stent implementation, especially involving the L main coronary artery.
2. In lieu of coronary angiography when performed to minimize use of iodinated contrast material in an individual with compromised renal function, congestive heart failure or known contrast allergy.

Limitations

Coronary IVUS is not covered for any of the following (this is not an all-inclusive list):

1. Screening for coronary artery disease in asymptomatic individuals;
2. Routine lesion assessment is not recommended when revascularization with PCI or Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG) is not being considered;
3. Carotid stent placement;
4. Follow-up monitoring of medical therapies for atherosclerosis;
5. Peripheral vascular intervention; or,
6. Evaluation of chronic venous obstruction or to guide venous stenting.

Background

Ultrasound diagnostic procedures utilizing low energy sound waves are being widely employed to determine the composition and contours of nearly all body tissues except bone and air-filled spaces. This technique permits noninvasive visualization of even the deepest structures in the body. The use of the ultrasound technique is sufficiently developed that it can be considered essential to good patient care in diagnosing a wide variety of conditions.

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Intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) is an imaging technique that uses a tiny ultrasound transducer to obtain detailed views of the lumen and wall of a coronary vessel. IVUS has been investigated for imaging of coronary vessels for guidance of procedures such as angioplasty and insertion of coronary stents, and for monitoring response to treatment.

Codes:

| CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD-10 Codes | |
|---|--|
| Code | Description |
| CPT Codes | |
| 92978 | Intravascular ultrasound (coronary vessel or graft) during diagnostic evaluation and/or therapeutic intervention including imaging supervision, interpretation and report, initial vessel (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure). |
| 92979 | Each additional vessel (list separately in addition to code for a primary procedure). |
| Non-Covered CPT Codes | |
| 37252* | Intravascular ultrasound (noncoronary vessel) during diagnostic evaluation and/or therapeutic intervention, including radiological supervision and interpretation, initial noncoronary vessel |
| 37253* | Intravascular ultrasound (noncoronary vessel) during diagnostic evaluation and/or therapeutic intervention, including radiological supervision and interpretation, each additional noncoronary vessel |
| *Considered Non-covered unless part of a NIH-certified study subject to medical necessity review | |
| ICD-10 codes covered if selection criteria are met: | |
| I20.0-I25.9 | Ischemic heart diseases |
| I42.0-I49.9 | Cardiomyopathy |
| I50.1-I50.9 | Heart failure |
| I70.0 | Atherosclerosis of aorta |
| I70.8-I70.92 | Atherosclerosis of other arteries-Generalized atherosclerosis |
| I97.710 – I97.89 | Other postprocedural complications during surgery |
| J95.61 – J95.831 | Postprocedural hemorrhage and hematoma of a respiratory system organ or structure following other procedure |
| K91.61- K91.841 | Postprocedural hemorrhage and hematoma of a digestive system following other procedure |

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| M96.810 –M96.831 | Post procedural hemorrhage and hematoma of a musculoskeletal structure following other procedure |
| N99.61 – N99.821 | Postprocedural hemorrhage and hematoma of a genitourinary system following a genitourinary system procedure |
| R07.1-R07.9 | Chest pain |
| R57.0 | Cardiogenic shock |
| R94.30-R94.39 | Abnormal results of cardiovascular function studies |
| T81.11XA | Postprocedural cardiogenic shock |
| T82.817A- T82.9XXs | Other complications due to other cardiac and vascular prosthetic devices, implants, and grafts |
| T86.20-T86.298 | Complications of heart transplant |
| T97.710-T97.89 | Intraoperative cardiac functional disturbances-Intraoperative and postprocedural complications and disorders of circulatory system, not elsewhere classified |
| Z48.21 | Encounter for aftercare following heart transplant |
| Z48.298 | Encounter for aftercare following other organ transplant |
| Z94.1 | Heart transplant status |
| Z95.5 | Presence of coronary angioplasty implant and graft |
| Z98.61 | Coronary angioplasty status |

References

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Archived References

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Disclaimer:

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