MedStar Health, Inc.
POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Policy Number: MP.091.MH
Last Review Date: 08/09/2018
Effective Date: 10/01/2018

MP.091.MH – Intravascular Ultrasound of Coronary Vessels

This policy applies to the following lines of business:
- ✓ MedStar Employee (Select)
- ✓ MedStar CareFirst PPO

MedStar Health 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 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 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

MP.091.MH – Intravascular Ultrasound of Coronary Vessels

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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.

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.
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
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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