Important Information – Please Read Before Using This Policy

These services may or may not be covered by all Medica plans. Please refer to the member’s plan document for specific coverage information. If there is a difference between this general information and the member’s plan document, the member’s plan document will be used to determine coverage. With respect to Medicare and Minnesota Health Care Programs, this policy will apply unless those programs require different coverage. Members may contact Medica Customer Service at the phone number listed on their member identification card to discuss their benefits more specifically. Providers with questions about this Medica coverage policy may call the Medica Provider Service Center toll-free at 1-800-458-5512.

Medica coverage policies are not medical advice. Members should consult with appropriate health care providers to obtain needed medical advice, care and treatment.

Coverage Policy
Wireless pulmonary artery pressure monitoring systems for monitoring heart failure (e.g., CardioMEMS) are investigative and unproven and therefore NOT COVERED. There is insufficient reliable evidence in the form of high quality peer-reviewed medical literature to establish the safety and efficacy or effects on health care outcomes.

Description
The CardioMEMS™ HF System employs a miniaturized, wireless monitoring sensor that is implanted in the pulmonary artery in order to directly measure pulmonary artery (PA) pressure in individuals previously hospitalized with heart failure. The system does not require batteries or leads, and it is designed to last the lifetime of the individual.

The individual has control of a portable, external electronic device, which allows transmission of PA pressure readings directly to a secure website where the data can be seen and interpreted by the individual’s clinician. This is purported to allow personalized and real-time heart failure management, with the suggested goal of reducing heart failure hospitalizations.

FDA Approval
The CardioMEMS Heart Failure System (St. Jude Medical, Inc.) received FDA Premarket approval in May 2014, for use in monitoring heart rates and pulmonary arterial pressures in individuals with New York Heart Association (NYHA) Class III heart failure who have been hospitalized for heart failure within the previous 12 months. Numerous supplemental approvals have been granted since the FDA’s initial approval.

Prior Authorization
Prior authorization is not applicable. Claims for this service are subject to retrospective review and denial of coverage, as investigative services are not eligible for reimbursement.
Coding Considerations
Use the current applicable CPT/HCPCS code(s). The following codes are included below for informational purposes only, and are subject to change without notice. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply member coverage or provider reimbursement.

CPT Codes
- **33289** - Transcatheter implantation of wireless pulmonary artery pressure sensor for long-term hemodynamic monitoring, including deployment and calibration of the sensor, right heart catheterization, selective pulmonary catheterization, radiological supervision and interpretation, and pulmonary artery angiography, when performed
- **93264** - Remote monitoring of a wireless pulmonary artery pressure sensor for up to 30 days, including at least weekly downloads of pulmonary artery pressure recordings, interpretation(s), trend analysis, and report(s) by a physician or other qualified health care professional

Original Effective Date: 9/1/2016
Re-Review Date(s): 6/26/2019
3/18/2020 – administrative update; format

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