

2 New 2010 CPT Codes for High-Tech Cardiology Services

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Steer clear of Cat. I codes for intravascular spectroscopy — here's where to look instead.

The CPT update season is fast approaching. Warm up for the changes coming your way with a look at new-for-2010 Category III codes aimed at diagnosing coronary artery disease.

Match 0206T to MCG

One of the new Category III codes with a Jan. 1 implementation date is 0206T (*Algorithmic analysis, remote, of electrocardiographic-derived data with computer probability assessment, including report*), which is appropriate for Premier Heart's Multifunction CardioGram (MCG).

The service: The MCG uses a mathematical approach to diagnose heart disease, states Joseph Shen, MD, founder and co-developer of the MCG technology, in a press release. Practices using the technology provide an in-office test similar to a resting ECG and then send the information to an MCG datacenter for analysis, which includes scoring the cardiac disease severity and listing differential diagnoses.

Catch this: The MCG system uses two leads. You may report a 12-lead ECG separately when performed, according to a note with the code. Choose from 93000- 93010 (*Electrocardiogram, routine ECG with at least 12 leads...*).

Flip to Cat. III for Intravascular Spectroscopy

For 2010, CPT also adds +0205T (*Intravascular catheter-based coronary vessel or graft spectroscopy [e.g., infrared] during diagnostic evaluation and/or therapeutic intervention including imaging supervision, interpretation, and report, each vessel [List separately in addition to code for primary procedure]*). This code describes a relatively new technology, such as InfraReDx, which physicians may use to identify lipid or cholesterol deposits in the vessel wall.

Don't miss: Code +0205T is an add-on code — meaning you may not report it alone. A note instructs you to report it alongside the following codes, as appropriate: