

**CARDIOVERTER DEFIBRILLATORS**

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Date Of Origin: December 31, 1991

Status: Current

**I. POLICY/CRITERIA**

**Cardioverter Defibrillators for Adults**

**A. Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators (ICDs) and Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy (Biventricular Pacemakers)/Combination Resynchronization-Defibrillation Devices**, alone or in combination with an AICD (CRT/AICD) are covered according to InterQual® criteria and must be prior authorized by Priority Health.

In addition to meeting InterQual® criteria, patient has completed the Emmi Defib (Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator-ICD) pre-surgical decision support tool prior to requesting authorization.

- B. ICDs are considered experimental and **not a covered benefit** for any indication not addressed by InterQual®.
- C. **ICD/CRT replacement.** The following are recommendations for improving decisions surrounding ICD/CRT replacement, including generator replacement (Kramer, D., Buxton, A., Zimetbaum, P., 2012).
  1. A comprehensive medical evaluation should occur before ICD/CRT replacement, with direct communication between the implanting physician and primary care physician, as well as other specialists involved in each patient’s care.
  2. Patient preferences, past experiences, and advance care planning should be explicitly included in decision making.
  3. Advance care planning should be revisited and patients should be educated about the possibility of device deactivation at the time of potential ICD/CRT replacement.

**Cardioverter Defibrillators – Pediatric Patients**

- A. The following Class I and Class IIa ICD indications are covered for pediatric patients and patients with congenital heart disease who meet one of the following criteria:
  1. Survivor of cardiac arrest after evaluation to define the cause of the event and to exclude any reversible causes. (*Class I*)
  2. Patients with symptomatic sustained VT in association with congenital heart disease who have undergone hemodynamic and

electrophysiological evaluation. Catheter ablation or surgical repair may offer possible alternatives in carefully selected patients. (*Class I*)

3. Patients with congenital heart disease with recurrent syncope of undetermined origin in the presence of either ventricular dysfunction or inducible ventricular arrhythmias at electrophysiological study. (*Class IIa*)

**Wearable Cardioverter Defibrillators**

May be covered under the DME benefit when InterQual® criteria are met.

**Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)** in the public setting or in the home are not a covered benefit. Compared to conventional resuscitation, in-home availability of AEDs did not improve survival when studied in post MI patients (Bardy, GH. et. al.). There is insufficient evidence to assess safety or impact on long-term outcomes in pediatric patients with congenital long QT syndrome.

**Microvolt T-Wave Alternans (MTWA) testing**

Use in conjunction with patient history, physical exam and other diagnostic information as a tool for risk stratification for sudden cardiac death in patients with ventricular arrhythmias is a covered benefit. The use of this testing is endorsed by the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association and is included as a recommendation in their practice guidelines.

**II. MEDICAL NECESSITY REVIEW**

- Required                       Not Required                       Not Applicable

**III. APPLICATION TO PRODUCTS**

Coverage is subject to member’s specific benefits. Group specific policy will supersede this policy when applicable.

- ❖ **HMO/EPO:** *This policy applies to insured HMO/EPO plans.*
- ❖ **POS:** *This policy applies to insured POS plans.*
- ❖ **PPO:** *This policy applies to insured PPO plans. Consult individual plan documents as state mandated benefits may apply. If there is a conflict between this policy and a plan document, the provisions of the plan document will govern.*
- ❖ **ASO:** *For self-funded plans, consult individual plan documents. If there is a conflict between this policy and a self-funded plan document, the provisions of the plan document will govern.*
- ❖ **INDIVIDUAL:** *For individual policies, consult the individual insurance policy. If there is a conflict between this medical policy and the individual insurance policy document, the provisions of the individual insurance policy will govern.*
- ❖ **MEDICARE:** *Coverage is determined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS); if a coverage determination has not been adopted by CMS, this policy applies.*

- ❖ **MEDICAID/HEALTHY MICHIGAN PLAN:** *For Medicaid/Healthy Michigan Plan members, this policy will apply. Coverage is based on medical necessity criteria being met and the appropriate code(s) from the coding section of this policy being included on the Michigan Medicaid Fee Schedule located at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945\\_42542\\_42543\\_42546\\_42551-159815--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_42542_42543_42546_42551-159815--,00.html). If there is a discrepancy between this policy and the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual located at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945\\_5100-87572--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_5100-87572--,00.html), the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual will govern. If there is a discrepancy or lack of guidance in the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual, the Priority Health contract with Michigan Medicaid will govern. For Medical Supplies/DME/Prosthetics and Orthotics, please refer to the Michigan Medicaid Fee Schedule to verify coverage.*

**Coverage for Medicare Members** — This policy does not apply to Medicare members. National Coverage Determination is available for Medicare members.

#### IV. DESCRIPTION

Cardiovascular disease is the single most common cause of death in the United States. There are 250,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests per year with a 95% mortality for these patients. This extremely low survival rate has motivated the prophylactic implantation of defibrillators as a means of primary prevention (American Heart Association, January 2004).

Sudden cardiac death (SCD) claims 400,000 individuals in the United States annually. Most adult deaths due to SCD stem from coronary artery disease. Childhood and adolescent deaths due to SCD range from 1 to 8 per 100,000. Nearly half of all sudden deaths in previously healthy children had no abnormal findings on routine autopsy. It can now be shown on molecular autopsy that probes the genes, that some fatal arrhythmias arise secondary to a primary channelopathy. The cardiac channelopathies comprise a class of primary inherited arrhythmia syndromes that stem from defective ion channels in the heart. The symptoms are syncope, seizures, or sudden death. These channelopathies include long QT syndrome (LQTS), Brugada syndrome (BrS), progressive cardiac conduction disease or familial atrio-ventricular conduction block, catecholaminergic polymorphic ventricular tachycardia (CPVT), idiopathic ventricular fibrillation, and a small percentage of sudden infant death syndrome.

Approximately five (5) million people in the United States have heart failure and over 550,000 are diagnosed annually for the first time. Heart failure is the primary reason for 12 to 15 million-office visits each year. It has been reported that more than 500,000 individuals in the United States have permanently implanted pacemakers or ICDs with 115,000 new devices implanted each year. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States and Michigan. For the year 2005, heart disease accounted for 27% of total deaths in the United States. Approximately 25,000 Michigan residents died of heart disease in 2004.

The implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) is an electronic device that is implanted in patients identified at high risk for sudden cardiac death (SCD) due to ventricular tachyarrhythmia, i.e., ventricular tachycardia (VT) and ventricular fibrillation (VF). The ICD continuously monitors heart rhythm, automatically senses malignant tachyarrhythmia and aborts VT/VF by means of overdrive pacing or a transcardial electrical countershock, which restores normal rhythm.

The ICD has two components: a pulse generator and defibrillator lead(s). The pulse generator contains a battery and circuitry that provides a variety of functions: generating energy and delivering defibrillating shocks, filtering/analyzing, and storing electrical signals from the myocardium to distinguish normal from pathologic rhythms that require a response from the ICD.

Multiple clinical trials of ICDs have been performed in recent years to assess which patients would benefit from ICD therapy. The clinical trials have generally been of two types: secondary prevention (involving patients resuscitated after cardiac arrest or unstable ventricular tachycardia) and primary prevention (involving patients at increased risk for sudden cardiac death but without documented history of cardiac arrest or unstable ventricular tachycardia). The indications for ICD therapy have changed several times in recent years, as various clinical trial results became available. Further changes may occur in the coming years as additional experience with these devices is accumulated.

Cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT) is a form of cardiac pacing used as a treatment for patients with chronic, medically refractory heart failure associated with interventricular asynchrony. This therapy evolved from existing cardiac pacing technology and is based on the earliest studies of the acute hemodynamic results of biventricular pacing. Since patients with ventricular pacemakers exhibited dyssynchronous ventricular contraction and paradoxical septal motion, dual-chambered (atrioventricular) pacemakers did little to improve the cardiac function of patients with heart failure and dilated cardiomyopathy. Stimulating both ventricles simultaneously in order to optimize septal motion and ventricular efficiency was initially accomplished in patients who had undergone cardiac surgery. Epicardial leads allowed acute biventricular pacing for these patients, and produced an improvement in cardiac function. CRT and implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) therapy can be combined in a single device.

Review of data on expanded indications for CRT/ICD at Technology Assessment Committee December 2009: Results of published trials (MADIT-CRT & REVERSE) on use of CRT/ICD in NYHA Class I & II are available (Moss, et. al.; St. John Sutton, et. al.; Linde, et. al.). In subgroup analysis for class I & II HF, the greatest benefit, including a reduction in HF admissions, for CRT/ICD was in class II HF with a QRS>150 msec. There was no mortality benefit in either trial.

In September of 2010 the FDA approved Boston Scientific CRT for “Left bundle bunch block with QRS  $\geq$  130ms, EF  $\leq$  30%, and mild (NYHA Class II) ischemic or nonischemic heart failure or asymptomatic (NYHA Class I) ischemic heart failure”. Post-approval studies are required.

**V. CODING INFORMATION**

**ICD-10 Codes that may apply:**

A18.84	Tuberculosis of heart
B57.0 – B57.2	Chagas' disease with/without heart involvement
D86.85	Sarcoid myocarditis
I11.0	Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure
I21.01 - I21.4	ST elevation (STEMI) and non-ST elevation (NSTEMI) myocardial infarction
I22.0 – I21.9	Subsequent ST elevation (STEMI) and non-ST elevation (NSTEMI) myocardial infarction
I25.2	Old myocardial infarction
I25.5	Ischemic cardiomyopathy
I25.6	Silent myocardial ischemia
I25.89	Other forms of chronic ischemic heart disease
I25.9	Chronic ischemic heart disease, unspecified
I40.0 – I40.9	Acute myocarditis
I42.0 – I42.9	Cardiomyopathy
I43	Cardiomyopathy in diseases classified elsewhere
I45.6	Pre-excitation syndrome
I45.81	Long QT syndrome
I45.89	Other specified conduction disorders
I46.2 – I46.9	Cardiac arrest
I47.0 – I47.9	Paroxysmal tachycardia
I49.01	Ventricular fibrillation
I49.02	Ventricular flutter
I49.2	Junctional premature depolarization
I49.3	Ventricular premature depolarization
I49.8	Other specified cardiac arrhythmias
I49.9	Cardiac arrhythmia, unspecified
I50.1 – I50.9	Heart failure
Q24.8	Other specified congenital malformations of heart
R00.1	Bradycardia, unspecified
R55	Syncope and collapse
T82.110A – T82.119S	Mechanical complication of cardiac electronic device
T82.120A – T82.129S	Displacement of cardiac electronic device
T82.190A - T82.199S	Other mechanical complication of cardiac electronic device

T82.7xxA - T82.7xxS	Infection and inflammatory reaction due to other cardiac and vascular devices, implants and grafts
T82.817A – T82.898S	Other specified complications of cardiac and vascular prosthetic devices, implants and grafts
T82.9xxA - T82.9xxS	Unspecified complication of cardiac and vascular prosthetic device, implant and graft
Z45.02	Encounter for adjustment and management of automatic implantable cardiac defibrillator
Z82.41	Family history of sudden cardiac death
Z86.74	Personal history of sudden cardiac arrest
Z95.810	Presence of automatic (implantable) cardiac defibrillator

**CPT/HCPCS Codes**

Insertion

*Prior authorization not required for the following services:*

- 33202 Insertion of epicardial electrode(s); open incision (e.g., thoracotomy, median sternotomy, subxiphoid approach)
- 33203 Insertion of epicardial electrode(s); endoscopic approach (e.g., thoracoscopy, pericardioscopy)
- 33216 Insertion of a transvenous electrode; single chamber (one electrode) permanent pacemaker or implantable defibrillator
- 33217 Insertion of 2 transvenous electrodes; permanent pacemaker or implantable defibrillator
- 33224 Insertion of pacing electrode, cardiac venous system, for left ventricular pacing, with attachment to previously placed pacemaker or implantable defibrillator pulse generator (including revision of pocket, removal, insertion, and/or replacement of existing generator)
- 33225 Insertion of pacing electrode, cardiac venous system, for left ventricular pacing, at time of insertion of implantable defibrillator or pacemaker pulse generator (e.g., for upgrade to dual chamber system) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
- 33271 Insertion of subcutaneous implantable defibrillator electrode

*Prior authorization **REQUIRED**:*

- 33230 Insertion of implantable defibrillator pulse generator only; with existing dual leads
- 33231 Insertion of implantable defibrillator pulse generator only; with existing multiple leads
- 33240 Insertion of implantable defibrillator pulse generator only; with existing single lead
- 33249 Insertion or replacement of permanent implantable defibrillator system, with transvenous lead(s), single or dual chamber
- 33262 Removal of implantable defibrillator pulse generator with replacement of implantable defibrillator pulse generator; single lead system
- 33263 Removal of implantable defibrillator pulse generator with replacement of implantable defibrillator pulse generator; dual lead system

- 33264 Removal of pacing implantable defibrillator pulse generator with replacement of implantable defibrillator pulse generator; multiple lead system
- 33270 Insertion or replacement of permanent subcutaneous implantable defibrillator system, with subcutaneous electrode, including defibrillation threshold evaluation, induction of arrhythmia, evaluation of sensing for arrhythmia termination, and programming or reprogramming of sensing or therapeutic parameters, when performed
- G0448 Insertion or replacement of a permanent pacing cardioverter defibrillator system with transvenous lead(s) single or dual chamber with insertion of pacing electrode, cardiac venous system, for left ventricular pacing (*Payable to Ambulatory Surgical Center only*)

Device

*Prior authorization **REQUIRED**:*

*These codes should be billed by the service facility with revenue codes 0272, 0275, or 0278*

- C1721 Cardioverter-defibrillator, dual chamber (implantable)  
 C1722 Cardioverter-defibrillator, single chamber (implantable)  
 C1882 Cardioverter-defibrillator, other than single or dual chamber (implantable)

Ancillary Codes

*Prior authorization not required for the following:*

- C1777 Lead, cardioverter-defibrillator, endocardial single coil (implantable)  
 C1895 Lead, cardioverter-defibrillator, endocardial dual coil (implantable)  
 C1896 Lead, cardioverter-defibrillator, other than endocardial single or dual coil (implantable)  
 C1899 Lead, pacemaker/cardioverter-defibrillator combination (implantable)

Wearable Device

*Prior authorization **REQUIRED**:*

- K0606 Automatic external defibrillator, with integrated electrocardiogram analysis, garment type
- K0607 Replacement battery for automated external defibrillator, garment type only, each
- K0608 Replacement garment for use with automated external defibrillator, each
- K0609 Replacement electrodes for use with automated external defibrillator, garment type only, each

Removal/Revision/Repair/Electrophysiologic Services

*Prior authorization not required for the following services:*

- 33215 Repositioning of previously implanted transvenous pacemaker or implantable defibrillator (right atrial or right ventricular) electrode
- 33218 Repair of single transvenous electrode, permanent pacemaker or implantable defibrillator
- 33220 Repair of 2 transvenous electrodes for permanent pacemaker or implantable defibrillator

- 33223 Relocation of skin pocket for implantable defibrillator
- 33224 Insertion of pacing electrode, cardiac venous system, for left ventricular pacing, with attachment to previously placed pacemaker or implantable defibrillator pulse generator (including revision of pocket, removal, insertion and/or replacement of generator)
- 33241 Removal of implantable defibrillator pulse generator only
- 33243 Removal of single or dual chamber implantable defibrillator electrode(s); by thoracotomy
- 33244 Removal of single or dual chamber implantable defibrillator electrode(s); by transvenous extraction
- 93025 Microvolt T-wave alternans for assessment of ventricular arrhythmias

#### Programming Services

*Prior authorization not required for the following services:*

- 93260 Programming device evaluation (in person) with iterative adjustment of the implantable device to test the function of the device and select optimal permanent programmed values with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional; implantable subcutaneous lead defibrillator system
- 93261 Interrogation device evaluation (in person) with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional, includes connection, recording and disconnection per patient encounter; implantable subcutaneous lead defibrillator system
- 93282 Programming device evaluation (in person) with iterative adjustment of the implantable device to test the function of the device and select optimal permanent programmed values with p analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional; single lead transvenous implantable defibrillator system
- 93283 Programming device evaluation (in person) with iterative adjustment of the implantable device to test the function of the device and select optimal permanent programmed values with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional; dual lead transvenous implantable defibrillator system
- 93284 Programming device evaluation (in person) with iterative adjustment of the implantable device to test the function of the device and select optimal permanent programmed values with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional; multiple lead transvenous implantable defibrillator system
- 93287 Peri-procedural device evaluation (in person) and programming of device system parameters before or after a surgery, procedure, or test with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional; single, dual, or multiple lead implantable defibrillator system
- 93289 Interrogation device evaluation (in person) with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional,, includes connection,



- recording and disconnection per patient encounter; single, dual, or multiple lead implantable cardioverter-defibrillator system, including analysis of heart rhythm derived data elements
- 93292 Interrogation device evaluation (in person) with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional, includes connection, recording and disconnection per patient encounter; wearable defibrillator system
- 93295 Interrogation device evaluation(s) (remote), up to 90 days; single, dual, or multiple lead implantable cardioverter-defibrillator system with interim analysis, review(s) and report(s) by a physician or other qualified health care professional
- 93296 Interrogation device evaluation(s) (remote), up to 90 days; single, dual, or multiple lead pacemaker system or implantable cardioverter-defibrillator system, remote data acquisition(s), receipt of transmissions and technician review, technical support and distribution of results
- 93640 Electrophysiologic evaluation of single or dual chamber pacing cardioverter-defibrillator leads including defibrillation threshold evaluation (induction of arrhythmia, evaluation of sensing and pacing for arrhythmia termination) at time of initial implantation or replacement;
- 93641 Electrophysiologic evaluation of single or dual chamber pacing cardioverter-defibrillator leads including defibrillation threshold evaluation (induction of arrhythmia, evaluation of sensing and pacing for arrhythmia termination) at time of initial implantation or replacement; with testing of single or dual chamber pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator
- 93642 Electrophysiologic evaluation of single or dual chamber pacing cardioverter-defibrillator (includes defibrillation threshold evaluation, induction of arrhythmia, evaluation of sensing and pacing for arrhythmia termination, and programming or reprogramming of sensing or therapeutic parameters)
- 93644 Electrophysiologic evaluation of subcutaneous implantable defibrillator (includes defibrillation threshold evaluation, induction of arrhythmia, evaluation of sensing for arrhythmia termination, and programming or reprogramming of sensing or therapeutic parameters)

Not covered:

E0617 External defibrillator with integrated electrocardiogram analysis

**Special Notes:** Priority Health’s Technology Assessment Committee reviewed ICDs on March 5, 2004 and June 3, 2005 and recommended coverage per the criteria listed in this policy.

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*Priority Health's medical policies are intended to serve as a resource to the plan. They are not intended to limit the plan's ability to interpret plan language as deemed appropriate. Physicians and other providers are solely responsible for all aspects of medical care and treatment, including the type, quality, and levels of care and treatment they choose to provide.*

*The name "Priority Health" and the term "plan" mean Priority Health, Priority Health Managed Benefits, Inc., Priority Health Insurance Company and Priority Health Government Programs, Inc.*