May 23, 2014

To: ASE Members

From: Advocacy Committee/Coding and Reimbursement

**United Healthcare Adopts Multiple Procedure Payment Reduction: Technical Component (TC) of Diagnostic Cardiovascular Procedures; Applicable to Echocardiography and Non-Invasive Vascular Ultrasound Procedures Performed in the Physician Office**

United Healthcare Commercial and Community Plan will revise the current Radiology Multiple Imaging Reduction Policy to additionally apply the Multiple Procedure Payment Reduction (MPPR) for diagnostic cardiovascular services. This affects procedure payments for patients who are enrolled in these plans.

United Healthcare noted they are implementing this policy to *better align with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)*. These changes will occur in the third quarter of 2014.

**Rationale:** In January 2013, CMS expanded its MPPR policy to cover Diagnostic Cardiovascular services assigned a multiple procedure indicator (MPI) of “6”. Consistent with the CMS National Physician Fee Schedule, United Healthcare will apply the discount to the second and subsequent procedures for the technical component (TC) only and to the TC of global services assigned an MPI of “6”. This policy does not affect the professional component payment.

Reference: https://www.unitedhealthcareonline.com/ccmcontent/ProviderII/UHC/en-US/Assets/ProviderStaticFiles/ProviderStaticFilesPdf/News/May\_Network\_Bulletin\_Final.pdf

**Implications:** This policy will apply when multiple cardiovascular services assigned a MPI of 6 are furnished to the same patient on the same day by the same physician or multiple physicians in the same group practice reporting under the same federal tax identification number (TIN). Echocardiography and non-invasive vascular procedures are currently assigned a MPI of “6” as are other diagnostic tests such as stress tests, ECGs, nuclear medicine, etc. (see list of procedures).

**Example, Office Payments**

Full payment is made for the TC service with the highest Relative Value Units (RVU). Payment is made at 75% for subsequent TC services furnished by the same physician (or by multiple physicians in the same group practice) to the same patient on the same day.

Since United Healthcare payment rates are contractually set and are not publically available, the following is an example of how payments will be calculated:

**Echo and SPECT performed in the office: Technical Component (TC) or Global Payment:**

**CPT 93306 (TTE) and CPT 78452 (SPECT) = SPECT full payment + Echo (.75 x 93306 payment)**

**Cardiovascular Services CPT Codes Subject to MPPR of Technical Component**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 75600 | Contrast exam thoracic aorta |
| 75605 | Contrast exam thoracic aorta |
| 75625 | Contrast exam abdominl aorta |
| 75630 | X-ray aorta leg arteries |
| 75658 | Artery x-rays arm |
| 75705 | Artery x-rays spine |
| 75710 | Artery x-rays arm/leg |
| 75716 | Artery x-rays arms/legs |
| 75726 | Artery x-rays abdomen |
| 75731 | Artery x-rays adrenal gland |
| 75733 | Artery x-rays adrenals |
| 75736 | Artery x-rays pelvis |
| 75741 | Artery x-rays lung |
| 75743 | Artery x-rays lungs |
| 75746 | Artery x-rays lung |
| 75756 | Artery x-rays chest |
| 75791 | Av dialysis shunt imaging |
| 75809 | Nonvascular shunt x-ray |
| 75820 | Vein x-ray arm/leg |
| 75822 | Vein x-ray arms/legs |
| 75825 | Vein x-ray trunk |
| 75827 | Vein x-ray chest |
| 75831 | Vein x-ray kidney |
| 75833 | Vein x-ray kidneys |
| 75840 | Vein x-ray adrenal gland |
| 75842 | Vein x-ray adrenal glands |
| 75860 | Vein x-ray neck |
| 75870 | Vein x-ray skull |
| 75872 | Vein x-ray skull epidural |
| 75880 | Vein x-ray eye socket |
| 75885 | Vein x-ray liver w/hemodynam |
| 75887 | Vein x-ray liver w/o hemodyn |
| 75889 | Vein x-ray liver w/hemodynam |
| 75891 | Vein x-ray liver |
| 75893 | Venous sampling by catheter |
| 78428 | Cardiac shunt imaging |
| 78445 | Vascular flow imaging |
| 78451 | Ht muscle image spect sing |
| 78452 | Ht muscle image spect mult |
| 78453 | Ht muscle image planar sing |
| 78454 | Ht musc image planar mult |
| 78456 | Acute venous thrombus image |
| 78457 | Venous thrombosis imaging |
| 78458 | Ven thrombosis images bilat |
| 78466 | Heart infarct image |
| 78468 | Heart infarct image (ef) |
| 78469 | Heart infarct image (3d) |
| 78472 | Gated heart planar single |
| 78473 | Gated heart multiple |
| 78481 | Heart first pass single |
| 78483 | Heart first pass multiple |
| 78494 | Heart image spect |
| 93000 | Electrocardiogram complete |
| 93005 | Electrocardiogram tracing |
| 93015 | Cardiovascular stress test |
| 93017 | Cardiovascular stress test |
| 93024 | Cardiac drug stress test |
| 93025 | Microvolt t-wave assess |
| 93040 | Rhythm ecg with report |
| 93041 | Rhythm ecg tracing |
| 93224 | Ecg monit/reprt up to 48 hrs |
| 93225 | Ecg monit/reprt up to 48 hrs |
| 93226 | Ecg monit/reprt up to 48 hrs |
| 93229 | Remote 30 day ecg tech supp |
| 93268 | Ecg record/review |
| 93270 | Remote 30 day ecg rev/report |
| 93271 | Ecg/monitoring and analysis |
| 93278 | Ecg/signal-averaged |
| 93279 | Pm device progr eval sngl |
| 93280 | Pm device progr eval dual |
| 93281 | Pm device progr eval multi |
| 93282 | Icd device progr eval 1 sngl |
| 93283 | Icd device progr eval dual |
| 93284 | Icd device progr eval mult |
| 93285 | Ilr device eval progr |
| 93286 | Peri-px pacemaker device evl |
| 93287 | Peri-px icd device eval&prgr |
| 93288 | Pm device eval in person |
| 93289 | Icd device interrogate |
| 93290 | Icm device eval |
| 93291 | Ilr device interrogate |
| 93292 | Wcd device interrogate |
| 93303 | Echo transthoracic |
| 93304 | Echo transthoracic |
| 93306 | Tte w/doppler complete |
| 93307 | Tte w/o doppler complete |
| 93308 | Tte f-up or lmtd |
| 93312 | Echo transesophageal |
| 93314 | Echo transesophageal |
| 93318 | Echo transesophageal intraop |
| 93350 | Stress tte only |
| 93351 | Stress tte complete |
| 93701 | Bioimpedance cv analysis |
| 93724 | Analyze pacemaker system |
| 93784 | Ambulatory bp monitoring |
| 93786 | Ambulatory bp recording |
| 93788 | Ambulatory bp analysis |
| 93880 | Extracranial bilat study |
| 93882 | Extracranial uni/ltd study |
| 93886 | Intracranial complete study |
| 93888 | Intracranial limited study |
| 93890 | Tcd vasoreactivity study |
| 93892 | Tcd emboli detect w/o inj |
| 93893 | Tcd emboli detect w/inj |
| 93922 | Upr/l xtremity art 2 levels |
| 93923 | Upr/lxtr art stdy 3+ lvls |
| 93924 | Lwr xtr vasc stdy bilat |
| 93925 | Lower extremity study |
| 93926 | Lower extremity study |
| 93930 | Upper extremity study |
| 93931 | Upper extremity study |
| 93965 | Extremity study |
| 93970 | Extremity study |
| 93971 | Extremity study |
| 93975 | Vascular study |
| 93976 | Vascular study |
| 93978 | Vascular study |
| 93979 | Vascular study |
| 93980 | Penile vascular study |
| 93981 | Penile vascular study |
| 93990 | Doppler flow testing |

Source: 2014 MPFS, File RVU14C, Codes with Multiple Procedure Indicator designated as “6”