

Medica Coverage Policy



Policy Name:	Coronary Artery Calcium Scoring (CACs) - Mayo Medical Plan Only
Effective Date:	5/19/2021

Important Information – Please Read Before Using This Policy

These services may or may not be covered by all Medica plans. Coverage is subject to requirements in applicable federal or state laws. Please refer to the member's plan document for other 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, Medicaid, and other government programs, this policy will apply unless these 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 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.

NOTE: THIS POLICY APPLIES TO MAYO MEDICAL PLAN (MMP) MEMBERS.

NOTE: For all other medica members, Medica is using clinical criteria developed by Carelon, a utilization management (UM) program third-party vendor, to assist in administering this service.

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Coronary artery calcium scoring is **COVERED** in asymptomatic individuals 40 to 75 years of age without diabetes mellitus with LDL level greater than or equal to 70 mg/dL – 189 mg/dL, at a 10-year atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) risk of greater than or equal to 7.5% to 19.9% for the purpose of making a treatment decision regarding statin therapy.

Coronary artery calcium scoring is considered investigative and unproven and therefore **NOT COVERED** for all other indications including both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals, with or without risk factors. There is insufficient reliable evidence in the form of high-quality peer-reviewed medical literature to establish the effects on health care outcomes.

Description

Coronary artery calcium scoring to assess the risk of coronary artery disease involves the use of computed tomography (CT) scanning to detect calcification, related to atherosclerosis, in the coronary arteries. Ultrafast computed tomography (also known as electron beam computed tomography [EBCT]) has been shown to be able to quantify the amount of calcium in the coronary arteries. Multi-slice (also called multi-detector row) CT (MSCT or MDCT) is also commonly used for coronary calcium scoring. When used for this purpose, contrast media is not required. Calcium deposits in the coronary arteries may be associated with atherosclerotic plaques. Therefore, it has been proposed that detection of coronary artery calcification could provide a fast and noninvasive method of diagnosing CAD and to guide clinicians in treatment decisions.

FDA Approval

EBCT, MSCT, and MDCT scanners are Class II devices. Class II devices pose little, if any, risk to the consumer if performance standards are met and do not require pre-market approval (PMA). Several MSCT, MDCT and EBCT scanners have received 510(k) clearance from the FDA.

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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:

- **75571** - Computed tomography, heart, without contrast material, with quantitative evaluation of coronary calcium

Original Effective Date: 5/1/2015

Re-Review Date(s): 4/18/2018
1/16/2020
5/19/2021
5/01/2024 – Administrative update; policy applies to Mayo Medical Plan members only

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