

Helpful hints for filing

EncorePro Software with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system

Overview

The following provides an overview of coding, coverage, and payment for services associated with the download and interpretation of data from EncorePro software with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system when performed in a physician's office and when suppliers provide EncorePro Software with SmartCard or the EncoreAnywhere modem system with a positive airway pressure (PAP) device. Coding information and national average Medicare fee schedule amounts are listed in this document. The fee schedules do not take into consideration geographic cost indices.

Although accurate coding is essential to ensure prompt claims processing and reimbursement, inclusion of a specific code and fee schedule amount does not guarantee payment. It is critical to be aware of each payer's coverage guidelines. For information regarding specific reimbursement guidelines, including coding, coverage, and payment, please consult your local payer, the *Federal Register* or the *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT), Fourth Edition*.¹

When selecting a CPT code, healthcare providers should choose the one that most accurately identifies the procedure or service performed. In addition to diagnostic or therapeutic procedures, the physician may also report other medically necessary procedures that are performed.



¹Current Procedural Terminology (CPT), Fourth Edition, 2011. American Medical Association, 2010. All rights reserved.

General coding guidelines

There are several factors to consider when selecting a CPT code to report the download and interpretation of data from the EncorePro with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system. The first factor is whether the physician has direct (face-to-face) patient contact during the office visit that involves the download and interpretation of data. Providers should also consider the payer that is being billed. Payers may have additional guidelines or specific coding recommendations for these types of services. Providers should contact the payer directly to confirm the most appropriate coding for these services.

Physician has direct (face-to-face) patient contact

If the physician has direct (face-to-face) contact with the patient, several coding options exist for the download and interpretation of data from the EncorePro with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system.

- If the visit is in conjunction with a follow-up office visit for management of a patient's PAP therapy, it may be appropriate to report the following code: This code is generally appropriate for one-time use only.
94660, *Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) ventilation, initiation and management*
- Another option for reporting follow-up visits for management of PAP therapy is with the appropriate Evaluation and Management (E/M) CPT code. These codes vary according to the patient status (new or established), and the complexity of the presenting problem as documented in the patient record. When selecting an E/M code, there are several components that physicians and their billing staff should consider and document:
 - Patient history
 - Coordination of care
 - Type of examination
 - Nature of presenting problem
 - Level of medical decision-making
 - Time spent in direct contact with the patient or family
 - Counseling provided

Sample E/M codes used to report physician office or outpatient services for established patients include:

99212, *Evaluation and management, established patient, usually presenting problems that are self-limited or minor; MD typically spends 10 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family*

99213, *Evaluation and management, established patient, usually presenting problems that are of low-to-moderate*

severity; MD typically spends 15 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family

99214, *Evaluation and management, established patient, usually presenting problems that are of moderate-to-high severity; MD typically spends 25 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family*

Providers may not bill an E/M code in addition to CPT code **94660** for the same patient service. An E/M code may be reported in addition to CPT code **94660** only if there is a "significant, separately identifiable service" above and beyond management of the PAP therapy.

- Additionally, there are several CPT codes that may be used by providers to report special services, such as the download and interpretation of EncorePro with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system data. For example:
99090, *Analysis of clinical data stored in computers (e.g., ECG, blood pressure, hematologic data)*
99091, *Collection and interpretation of physiologic data (e.g., ECG, blood pressure, glucose monitoring) digitally stored and/or transmitted by the patient and/or caregiver to the physician or other qualified health care professional, requiring a minimum of 30 minutes of time*

Code **99090** may be used to report the interpretation of EncorePro with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system data, and **99091** may be appropriate to report both the download and the interpretation of the data. Providers should not report both of these codes for one service encounter.

Physician does not have direct (face-to-face) patient contact

In the absence of a face-to-face encounter between the physician and the patient, coding options for reporting the download and interpretation of EncorePro with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system data will vary.

- One option is to report the download and interpretation with a miscellaneous CPT code, such as:
99499, *Unlisted evaluation and management service*

The American Medical Association (AMA)² has confirmed that this CPT code may be used by providers to report interpretation of EncorePro with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system data in the absence of an actual patient office visit/encounter. As this is a miscellaneous code, providers should attach supporting documentation to the claim, such as an explanation

²Based on guidance provided by AMA's CPT Information Services representatives.

of services provided and the medical necessity for those services. The payment level for this code will be determined on a case-by-case basis upon individual payer review.

- Another option is to report the download and interpretation of EncorePro with SmartCard or EncoreAnywhere modem system data with 99090 or 99091. Again, code 99090 would be used to report the interpretation of the data, and 99091 may be appropriate to report both the download and the interpretation of the data. Providers should not report both of these codes for one service.

Coverage and payment guidelines

Medicare

Under Medicare, codes 99090 and 99091 have a

“bundled” status. This means Medicare payment for these codes is bundled into reimbursement for other basic services rendered. Even though these codes are not separately reimbursable under Medicare, providers may report these codes when appropriate to represent the additional time and resources spent providing these services.

E/M codes and CPT code 94660 are eligible for Medicare coverage and payment. If an E/M code is billed in conjunction with CPT code 94660, payment will be bundled, unless a “significant and separately identifiable service” is provided. Payment is based on the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule. The following table indicates some sample coding options and corresponding national average Medicare fee schedule amounts:

CPT code	Code description	2011 National average Medicare fee schedule amount*
94660	Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) ventilation, initiation and management	\$44.66
99212	Evaluation and management, established patient, usually presenting problems that are self-limited or minor	\$31.14
99213	Evaluation and management, established patient, usually presenting problems that are of low-to-moderate severity	\$51.81
99214	Evaluation and management, established patient, usually presenting problems that are of moderate-to-high severity	\$77.08
99090	Analysis of clinical data stored in computer (e.g., ECG, blood pressure, hematologic data)	Bundled
99091	Collection and interpretation of physiological data (e.g., ECG blood pressure, glucose monitoring) digitally stored and/or transmitted by the patient and/or caregiver to the physician or other qualified health care professional, requiring a minimum of 30 minutes of time	Bundled
99499	Unlisted evaluation and management service	Manually priced

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

42 CFR parts 405, 409, 410, 411, 413, 414, 415, and 424. Medicare program; payment policies under the physician fee schedule and other revisions to Part B for CY 2011. Final rule, pages 1889-1911. The conversion factor is \$25.5217 per the FY 11 Final Rule.

Private payers and Medicaid

Private payers and Medicaid programs reimburse providers for professional services in a variety of ways including fee schedules and a percentage of the usual and customary charges. CPT codes 99090 and 99091 may be considered bundled by some private payer plans, while other plans may provide separate reimbursement. The provider should contact the specific plan to determine actual payment rates.

Note: Inclusion or exclusion of a code for a specific product or supply does not imply any health insurance coverage or reimbursement policy. All referenced information and codes were taken from CPT. Please refer to appropriate Medicare guidance document for complete explanations.

Supplier coding, coverage and payment

A new HCPCS code has been established to report the EncorePro Software with SmartCard or the EncoreAnywhere modem system.

A9279, monitoring feature/device, stand-alone or integrated, any type, includes all accessories, components and electronics, not otherwise classified

This is an add-on code to the main code for the PAP device (e.g., E0601).

Medicare does not cover or pay separately for A9279. However, private payers and Medicaid programs may provide separate reimbursement. The supplier should contact the specific plan to determine coverage guidelines and actual payment rates.

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For more information from Philips Respironics

Reimbursement	Customer service	Website
Information & fee schedules Educational materials & questions (coding, coverage and payment)	1-800-345-6443; listen to the instructions and follow prompts to select the insurance reimbursement information option	www.philips.com/respironics

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CAUTION: US federal law restricts these devices to sale by or on the order of a physician.

Geyer SB 01/14/11 MCI 4103980 PN 1033856