
CMS Manual System

Pub. 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing

Department of Health &
Human Services (DHHS)
Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services (CMS)

Transmittal 589

Date: JUNE 24, 2005

CHANGE REQUEST 3796

SUBJECT: Cochlear Implantation

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: Effective for services performed on and after April 4, 2005, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has expanded the coverage for cochlear implantation to cover moderate-to-profound hearing loss in individuals with hearing test scores equal to or less than 40% correct in the best aided listening condition on tape-recorded tests of open-set sentence recognition and who demonstrate limited benefit from amplification. Also, CMS is covering cochlear implantation of individuals with open-set sentence recognition test scores of greater than 40% to less than or equal to 60% correct, where device was implanted in an acceptable clinical trial. (See Publication 100-03, chapter 1, section 50.3, for the specific coverage criteria). This instruction announces the billing requirements for cochlear implantation when billing fiscal intermediaries and carriers.

NEW/REVISED MATERIAL - EFFECTIVE DATE*: April 4, 2005

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: July 5, 2005

Disclaimer for manual changes only: The revision date and transmittal number apply to the red italicized material only. Any other material was previously published and remains unchanged. However, if this revision contains a table of contents, you will receive the new/revised information only, and not the entire table of contents.

II. CHANGES IN MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS:

(R = REVISED, N = NEW, D = DELETED)

R/N/D	CHAPTER/SECTION/SUBSECTION/TITLE
R	32/Table of Contents
N	32/100/Billing Requirements for Expanded Coverage of Cochlear Implantation
N	32/100.1/Intermediary Billing Procedures
N	32/100.1.1/Applicable Bill Types
N	32/100.1.2/Special Billing Requirements for Intermediaries
N	32/100.2/Intermediary Payment Requirements
N	32/100.3/Carrier Billing Procedures
N	32/100.4/Healthcare Common Procedural Coding System (HCPCS)

III. FUNDING: No additional funding will be provided by CMS; contractor activities are to be carried out within their FY 2005 operating budgets.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

x	Business Requirements
x	Manual Instruction
	Confidential Requirements
	One-Time Notification
	Recurring Update Notification

***Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.**