INFOBulletin

Keeping health care providers informed of payment, policy or program changes

To: **All Providers**

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Date Issued: **February 28, 2020** **Bulletin #:** **4743**

Re: **Kaplan Board of Arbitration Award – Appropriateness Working Group (AWG): Cardiac Holter Monitor Changes to the Schedule of Benefits (Schedule) Effective October 1, 2019**

Kaplan Board of Arbitration Award - Appropriateness Working Group (AWG)

As directed by the February 2019 Kaplan Board of Arbitration Award, the Ministry of Health and the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) formed the Appropriateness Working Group (AWG) with a mandate to use evidence, best practices and expert opinion to decrease the provision of medically unnecessary or inappropriate services without decreasing access to medically necessary services.

A. New Fee Codes – Level 2 Holter Monitors: 14 or more days of recording

Effective for service dates on or after October 1, 2019, three new fee schedule codes (FSC) have been created for Level 2 Holter Monitors 14 or more days. The three new codes are:

G694A – Technical component – 14 or more days of recording

G695A – Technical component – 14 or more days scanning

G696A – Professional component – 14 or more days recording

NOTE: as stated on page J14 of the Schedule, under payment note 3:G647, G648, G649, G694, G695 and G696 are only eligible for payment once per 30 day period per patient.

B. Reminder – Appropriate Billing of Holter Monitor Codes

Below is a listing of all Level 1 and Level 2 Continuous ECG Monitoring codes, including the three new Level 2 codes for Holter Monitors 14 or more days.

NOTE: As stated on page J14 of the Schedule, under payment note 2:

- Where the duration of the service is more than 36 hours, claims for such services must be submitted using the appropriate listed code for that time duration and cannot be submitted using multiples of lesser time duration codes.

CONTINUOUS ECG MONITORING (E.G. HOLTER)

Level 1

Requires a device capable of recording three or more simultaneous channels and the acquisition of a continuous ambulatory electrocardiographic recording of all beats, using three or more skin electrodes. The device must also have the ability to analyze and manually review all parts of the recording, and to produce graphical and quantitative reports of relevant parameters and diagnostic quality tracings for visual review, including post-hoc review of any portion of the recording to enable diagnostic rhythm analysis. Must include a patient diary and event marker capability to enable symptom-rhythm correlation.

Minimum 12 hours of monitoring.

G651	technical component	12 to 35 hours recording	23.90
G652	technical component	12 to 35 hours scanning	32.70
G650	professional component	12 to 35 hours recording	47.90
G682	technical component	36 to 59 hours recording	47.80
G683	technical component	36 to 59 hours scanning	65.40
G658	professional component	36 to 59 hours recording	75.45
G684	technical component	60 hours to 13 days recording	71.65
G685	technical component	60 hours to 13 days scanning	98.10
G659	professional component	60 hours to 13 days recording	95.85
G647	technical component	14 or more days recording	112.65
G648	technical component	14 or more days scanning	164.00
G649	professional component	14 or more days recording	122.25

Level 2

All other monitoring devices with fewer than three skin electrodes, or that record only portions of the monitoring period or do not provide trend analysis. Minimum 12 hours monitoring.

G654	technical component	12 to 35 hours recording	22.80
G655	technical component	12 to 35 hours scanning	15.60
G653	professional component	12 to 35 hours recording	34.10

G686	technical component	36 to 59 hours recording	45.60
G687	technical component	36 to 59 hours scanning	31.20
G656	professional component	36 to 59 hours recording	51.15
G688	technical component	60 hours to 13 days recording	68.40
G689	technical component	60 hours to 13 days scanning	46.85
G657	professional component	60 hours to 13 days recording	68.20
G694	technical component	14 or more days recording	107.02
G695	technical component	14 or more days scanning	78.72
G696	professional component	14 or more days recording	86.80

Services related to external cardiac loop recording devices that rely solely on patient activation to record electrocardiographic data and do not have the capability of real-time rhythm analysis are not insured.

For details related to the AWG changes to the Schedule effective October 1, 2019, please refer to INFOBulletin # 4726 Kaplan Board of Arbitration Award - Appropriateness Working Group (AWG): Changes to the Schedule are effective October 1, 2019.

For any further inquiries, please contact the Service Support Contact Centre at:

1-800-262-6524 or by email to

Ministry of Health Service Support Contact Centre