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** Please note: The Clinical Coverage Guideline (CCG) is intended to supplement certain standard Alignment Health (Alignment) benefit plans and aid in administering benefits. Federal and state law, contract language, etc. take precedence over the CCG (e.g., Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS] National Coverage Determinations [NCDs], Local Coverage Determinations [LCDs] or other published documents). The terms of a member's particular Benefit Plan, Evidence of Coverage, Certificate of Coverage, etc., may differ significantly from this Coverage Position. Providers are responsible for the treatment and recommendations provided to the member. The application of the CCG is subject to the benefit determinations set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National and Local Coverage Determinations, and any state-specific mandates. Information is current at time of approval by the Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) and are subject to change.*

AHC Mobile Cardiovascular Telemetry

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Clinical Indications

- Mobile cardiovascular telemetry (MCT) (e.g., CardioNet Mobile Cardiac Outpatient Telemetry [MCOT] Service; Cardiac Telecom and Health Monitoring Services of America's Telemetry @ Home Service; Heartbreak ECAT [External Cardiac Ambulatory Telemetry] [Med net Healthcare Technologies], HEARTLink™ II ECG Arrhythmia Detector and Alarm System by Cardiac Telecom Corporation, LifeStar ACT by LifeWatch®, Inc., a subsidiary of Card Guard Scientific, SAVI® [Mediacom], Telemetry™ [Scott Care Cardiovascular Solutions], Trove® [Biomedical Systems] and Zio AT [iRhythm Technologies]) may be covered if one of the following is met:
 - Evaluation of recurrent unexplained episodes of presyncope, syncope, palpitations or dizziness when both of the following are met:
 - A cardiac arrhythmia is suspected as the cause of the symptoms; AND
 - Member has a non-diagnostic Holter monitor or 48 hour telemetry, or symptoms occur infrequently (less frequently than daily) such that the arrhythmia is unlikely to be diagnosed by Holter monitoring;
 - For evaluation of member with suspected atrial fibrillation as a cause of cryptogenic stroke who has had a non-diagnostic Holter monitor or 48-hour telemetry.
- All other indications are considered experimental/investigational and not medically necessary.

Evidence Summary

Mobile cardiovascular telemetry (MCT) refers to non-invasive ambulatory cardiac event monitors with extended memory capable of continuous measurement of heart rate and rhythm over several days, with transmission of results to a remote monitoring center. Mobile cardiovascular telemetry is similar to standard cardiac telemetry used in the hospital setting.

The CardioNet device has been classified as a combined ambulatory electrocardiograph and arrhythmia detector with alarm by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The CardioNet Ambulatory ECG Monitor with Arrhythmia Detection Model CN1001 (K012241) was approved for marketing by the FDA in February 2002. Additional information is available at:
http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/cdrh_docs/pdf/K012241.pdf. A

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- Olson JA, Fouts AM, Padanilam BJ, Prystowsky EN. Utility of mobile cardiac outpatient telemetry for the diagnosis of palpitations, presyncope, syncope, and the assessment of therapy efficacy. J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol. 2007 May;18(5):473-7.
- Zipes DP, Camm AJ, Borggrefe M, Buxton A et al. ACC/AHA/ESC 2006 guidelines for management of patients with ventricular arrhythmias and the prevention of sudden cardiac death. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2006 Sep 5;48(5):e247-346.

Committee Approval

- 01/09/2024, 02/20/2025

Application

- This policy applies to the following states: Arizona, California and Nevada
- This policy does not apply to the states listed below; refer to the state-specific policy/guideline, if noted:
 - Texas—please refer to Local Coverage Determination L39490
 - North Carolina—please refer to Local Coverage Determination L34573
- Medicare may cover electrocardiographic services when criteria have been met. Refer to the National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Electrocardiographic services (20.15), which addresses coverage guidelines for electrocardiogram (EKG) and ambulatory EKG services.
- Please refer to the CMS website for the most current applicable National Coverage Determination (NCD)/ Local Coverage Determination (LCD)/Local Coverage Article (LCA)/CMS Online Manual System/Transmittals.

Policy Revision History

- 06/26/2022: Creation date
- 12/11/2023: Revision
- 11/12/2024: Annual review, Applicable states updated, Florida removed

Codes

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