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## **OVERVIEW**

This policy documents the cardiology services in which pre-authorization is required by the Blue Cross Blue Shield of RI (BCBSRI), Cardiology Services Management program vendor for BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products.

## **MEDICAL CRITERIA**

### **BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products**

Clinical guidelines for approval of the tests listed below are found on the Cardiology Services Management Program vendor's website.

## **PRIOR AUTHORIZATION**

Prior authorization is required;

Contact BCBSRI Cardiology Services Management at [evicore.com](http://evicore.com) or call 888-233-8158 or fax 888-693-3210.

## **POLICY STATEMENT**

### **BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products**

Pre-authorization through the BCBSRI Cardiology Management Program vendor for the services that area listed in the coding section of this policy.

**NOTE:** This authorization requirement does not apply to services rendered in an emergency room, observation or inpatient setting.

## **COVERAGE**

Benefits may vary between groups/contracts. Please refer to the appropriate section of the Benefit Booklet, Evidence of Coverage or Subscriber Agreement for applicable Diagnostic Imaging services.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **For BCBSRI Participating Providers**

The physician who orders the cardiology services must initiate and complete the authorization with the BCBSRI Cardiology Management Program vendor. The ordering physician must maintain all documentation to support the clinical appropriateness of the study that is ordered and will complete the authorization accurately. Clinical guidelines used to approve these tests are located on the Cardiology Management Program vendor's website along with a listing of services that require preauthorization.

Imaging facilities/hospitals are not allowed to obtain clinical authorization on behalf of the ordering physician. In no circumstance, unless expressly agreed to by BCBSRI in writing, will a physician use a representative of an imaging facility/hospital or anyone with a relationship to an imaging facility/hospital, to facilitate any portion of the authorization process with the Cardiology Management Program vendor, including any element of the preparation of necessary documentation of clinical appropriateness. If an imaging facility/hospital is found to be supporting, without BCBSRI express written agreement, any portion of the authorization process, BCBSRI will deem the action a violation of this policy and severe action will be taken up to and including termination from the BCBSRI provider network. If a facility/hospital provides a cardiology service that has not been authorized, the service will be denied as the financial liability of the facility/hospital and may not be billed to the member.

**CODING:** The following codes require Prior authorization for BlueCHiP for Medicare and commercial products;  
Contact BCBSRI Cardiology Management at [evicore.com](http://evicore.com) or call 888-233-8158 or fax 888-693-3210.

<b>CPT® Code</b>	<b>CPT® Code Description</b>
<b>33206</b>	Insertion of new or replacement of permanent pacemaker with transvenous electrode(s); atrial
<b>33207</b>	Insertion of new or replacement of permanent pacemaker with transvenous electrode(s); ventricular
<b>33208</b>	Insertion of new or replacement of permanent pacemaker with transvenous electrode(s); atrial and ventricular
<b>33212</b>	Insertion of pacemaker pulse generator only; with existing single lead
<b>33213</b>	Insertion of pacemaker pulse generator only; with existing dual leads
<b>33214</b>	Upgrade of implanted pacemaker system, conversion of single chamber system to dual chamber system (includes removal of previously placed pulse generator, testing of existing lead, insertion of new lead, insertion of new generator)
<b>33221</b>	Insertion of pacemaker pulse generator only; with existing multiple leads
<b>33224</b>	Insertion of pacing electrode, cardiac venous system, for left ventricular pacing, with attachment to previously placed pacemaker or pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator (including revision of pocket, removal, insertion, and/or replacement of existing generator)
<b>33225</b>	Insertion of pacing electrode, cardiac venous system, for left ventricular pacing, at time of insertion of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator or pacemaker pulse generator (including upgrade to dual chamber system and pocket revision) (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
<b>33227</b>	Removal of permanent pacemaker pulse generator with replacement of pacemaker pulse generator; single lead system
<b>33228</b>	Removal of permanent pacemaker pulse generator with replacement of pacemaker pulse generator; dual lead system
<b>33229</b>	Removal of permanent pacemaker pulse generator with replacement of pacemaker pulse generator; multiple lead system
<b>33230</b>	Insertion of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator only; with existing dual leads
<b>33231</b>	Insertion of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator only; with existing multiple leads
<b>33240</b>	Insertion of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator only; with existing single lead
<b>33249</b>	Insertion or replacement of permanent pacing cardioverter-defibrillator system with transvenous lead(s), single or dual chamber
<b>33262</b>	Removal of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator with replacement of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator; single lead system
<b>33263</b>	Removal of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator with replacement of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator; dual lead system
<b>33264</b>	Removal of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator with replacement of pacing cardioverter-defibrillator pulse generator; multiple lead system
<b>33270</b>	Insertion or replacement of permanent subcutaneous implantable defibrillator system, with subcutaneous electrode, including defibrillation threshold evaluation, induction of arrhythmia, evaluation of sensing for arrhythmia termination, and programming or reprogramming of sensing or therapeutic parameters, when performed
<b>33274</b>	Transcatheter insertion or replacement of permanent leadless pacemaker, right ventricular, including imaging guidance (eg, fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, ventriculography, femoral venography) and device evaluation (eg, interrogation or programming), when performed
<b>33275</b>	Transcatheter removal of permanent leadless pacemaker, right ventricular
<b>33289</b>	Transcatheter implantation of wireless pulmonary artery pressure sensor for long-term hemodynamic monitoring, including deployment and calibration of the sensor, right heart catheterization, selective pulmonary catheterization, radiological supervision and interpretation, and pulmonary artery angiography, when performed
<b>0515T</b>	Insertion of wireless cardiac stimulator for left ventricular pacing, including device interrogation and programming, and imaging supervision and interpretation, when performed; complete system (includes electrode and generator [transmitter and battery])

<b>0516T</b>	Insertion of wireless cardiac stimulator for left ventricular pacing, including device interrogation and programming, and imaging supervision and interpretation, when performed; electrode only
<b>0517T</b>	Insertion of wireless cardiac stimulator for left ventricular pacing, including device interrogation and programming, and imaging supervision and interpretation, when performed; pulse generator component(s) (battery and/or transmitter) only
<b>0519T</b>	Removal and replacement of wireless cardiac stimulator for left ventricular pacing; pulse generator component(s) (battery and/or transmitter)
<b>0520T</b>	Removal and replacement of wireless cardiac stimulator for left ventricular pacing; pulse generator component(s) (battery and/or transmitter), including placement of a new electrode
<b>0501T</b>	Noninvasive estimated coronary fractional flow reserve (ffr) derived from coronary computed tomography angiography data using computation fluid dynamics physiologic simulation software analysis of functional data to assess the severity of coronary artery disease; data preparation and transmission, analysis of fluid dynamics and simulated maximal coronary hyperemia, generation of estimated ffr model, with anatomical data review in comparison with estimated ffr model to reconcile discordant data, interpretation and report
<b>0502T</b>	Noninvasive estimated coronary fractional flow reserve (ffr) derived from coronary computed tomography angiography data using computation fluid dynamics physiologic simulation software analysis of functional data to assess the severity of coronary artery disease; data preparation and transmission
<b>0503T</b>	Noninvasive estimated coronary fractional flow reserve (ffr) derived from coronary computed tomography angiography data using computation fluid dynamics physiologic simulation software analysis of functional data to assess the severity of coronary artery disease; analysis of fluid dynamics and simulated maximal coronary hyperemia, and generation of estimated ffr model
<b>0504T</b>	Noninvasive estimated coronary fractional flow reserve (ffr) derived from coronary computed tomography angiography data using computation fluid dynamics physiologic simulation software analysis of functional data to assess the severity of coronary artery disease; anatomical data review in comparison with estimated ffr model to reconcile discordant data, interpretation and report
<b>0482T</b>	Absolute quantitation of myocardial blood flow, positron emission tomography (pet), rest and stress (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
<b>78414</b>	Non-Imaging Heart Function
<b>78445</b>	Radionuclide Venogram Non-Cardiac
<b>78451</b>	Myocardial perfusion imaging, tomographic (SPECT) (including attenuation correction, qualitative or quantitative wall motion, ejection fraction by first pass or gated technique, additional quantification, when performed); single study, at rest or stress
<b>78452</b>	Myocardial perfusion imaging, tomographic (SPECT) (including attenuation correction, qualitative or quantitative wall motion, ejection fraction by first pass or gated technique, additional quantification, when performed); multiple studies, at rest or stress
<b>78453</b>	Myocardial perfusion imaging, planar (including qualitative or quantitative wall motion, ejection fraction by first pass or gated technique, additional quantification, when performed); single study, at rest or stress (exercise or pharmacologic)
<b>78454</b>	Myocardial perfusion imaging, planar (including qualitative or quantitative wall motion, ejection fraction by first pass or gated technique, additional quantification, when performed); multiple studies, at rest and/or stress (exercise or pharmacologic)
<b>78466</b>	Myocardial imaging, infarct avid, planar; qualitative or quantitative
<b>78468</b>	Myocardial imaging, infarct avid, planar; with ejection fraction by first pass technique
<b>78469</b>	Myocardial imaging, infarct avid, planar; tomographic SPECT with or without quantification
<b>78472</b>	Cardiac blood pool imaging, gated equilibrium; planar, single study at rest or stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), wall motion study plus ejection fraction, with or without additional quantitative processing
<b>78473</b>	Cardiac blood pool imaging, gated equilibrium; multiple studies, wall motion study plus ejection fraction, at rest and stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), with or without additional quantification
<b>78481</b>	Cardiac blood pool imaging (planar), first pass technique; single study, at rest or with stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), wall motion study plus ejection fraction, with or without quantification
<b>78483</b>	Cardiac blood pool imaging (planar), first pass technique; multiple studies, at rest and with stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), wall motion study plus ejection fraction, with or without quantification
<b>78494</b>	Cardiac blood pool imaging, gated equilibrium, SPECT, at rest, wall motion study plus ejection fraction, with or without quantitative processing

78496	Cardiac blood pool imaging, gated equilibrium, single study, at rest, with right ventricular ejection fraction by first pass technique (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
78499	Unlisted cardiovascular procedure, diagnostic nuclear medicine
93452	Left heart catheterization including intraprocedural injection(s) for left ventriculography, imaging supervision and interpretation, when performed
93453	Combined right and left heart catheterization including intraprocedural injection(s) for left ventriculography, imaging supervision and interpretation, when performed
93454	Catheter placement in coronary artery(s) for coronary angiography, including intraprocedural injection(s) for coronary angiography, imaging supervision and interpretation
93455	Catheter placement in coronary artery(s) for coronary angiography, including intraprocedural injection(s) for coronary angiography, imaging supervision and interpretation; with catheter placement(s) in bypass graft(s) (internal mammary, free arterial venous grafts) including intraprocedural injection(s) for bypass graft angiography
93456	Catheter placement in coronary artery(s) for coronary angiography, including intraprocedural injection(s) for coronary angiography, imaging supervision and interpretation; with right heart catheterization
93457	Catheter placement in coronary artery(s) for coronary angiography, including intraprocedural injection(s) for coronary angiography, imaging supervision and interpretation; with catheter placement(s) in bypass graft(s) (internal mammary, free arterial, venous grafts) including intraprocedural injection(s) for bypass graft angiography and right heart catheterization
93458	Catheter placement in coronary artery(s) for coronary angiography, including intraprocedural injection(s) for coronary angiography, imaging supervision and interpretation; with left heart catheterization including intraprocedural injection(s) for left ventriculography, when performed
93459	Catheter placement in coronary artery(s) for coronary angiography, including intraprocedural injection(s) for coronary angiography, imaging supervision and interpretation; with left heart catheterization including intraprocedural injection(s) for left ventriculography, when performed, catheter placement(s) in bypass graft(s) (internal mammary, free arterial, venous grafts) with bypass graft angiography
93460	Catheter placement in coronary artery(s) for coronary angiography, including intraprocedural injection(s) for coronary angiography, imaging supervision and interpretation; with right and left heart catheterization including intraprocedural injection(s) for left ventriculography, when performed
93461	Catheter placement in coronary artery(s) for coronary angiography, including intraprocedural injection(s) for coronary angiography, imaging supervision and interpretation; with right and left heart catheterization including intraprocedural injection(s) for left ventriculography, when performed, catheter placement(s) in bypass graft(s) (internal mammary, free arterial, venous grafts) with bypass graft angiography
93462	Left heart catheterization by transeptal puncture through intact septum or by transapical puncture (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
93530	Right Heart Catheterization (CHD)
93531	Right/Left Heart Catheterization (CHD)
93532	Right/Left Heart Catheterization (CHD-TS)
93533	Right/Left Heart Catheterization (CAD-ASD)
93303	Transthoracic echocardiography for congenital cardiac anomalies; complete
93304	Transthoracic echocardiography for congenital cardiac anomalies; follow-up or limited study
93306	Echocardiography, transthoracic, real-time with image documentation (2d), includes m-mode recording, when performed, complete, with spectral doppler echocardiography, and with color flow doppler echocardiography
93307	Echocardiography, transthoracic, real-time with image documentation (2d) with or without m-mode recording; complete
93308	Echocardiography, transthoracic, real-time with image documentation (2d) with or without m-mode recording; follow-up or limited study
93312	TEE 2D;Incl Probe Placement, Imaging/Interp/Report
93313	Echocardiography, transesophageal, real-time with image documentation (2D) (with or without M-mode recording); placement of transesophageal probe only
93314	Echocardiography, transesophageal, real-time with image documentation (2D) (with or without M-mode recording); image acquisition, interpretation and report only
93315	Transesophageal echocardiography for congenital cardiac anomalies; including probe placement, image acquisition, interpretation and report

93316	Transesophageal echocardiography for congenital cardiac anomalies; placement of transesophageal probe only
93317	Transesophageal echocardiography for congenital cardiac anomalies; image acquisition, interpretation and report only
93320	Doppler echocardiography, pulsed wave and/or continuous wave with spectral display; complete
93321	Doppler echocardiography, pulsed wave and/or continuous wave with spectral display; follow-up or limited study
93325	Doppler echocardiography color flow velocity mapping
0399T	Myocardial strain imaging (quantitative assessment of myocardial mechanics using image-based analysis of local myocardial dynamics) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
0439T	Myocardial contrast perfusion echocardiography, at rest or with stress, for assessment of myocardial ischemia or viability (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
C8921	Transthoracic echocardiography w/contrast for congenital cardiac anomalies; complete
C8922	Transthoracic echocardiography w/contrast for congenital cardiac anomalies; f/u or limited study
C8923	Transthoracic echocardiography w/contrast, real-time w/image documentation (2d), w/wo m-mode recording; complete
C8924	Transthoracic echocardiography w/contrast, real-time w/image documentation (2d), w/wo m-mode recording; f/u or limited study
C8925	Transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) with contrast, or without contrast followed by with contrast, real time with image documentation (2D) (with or without M-mode recording); including probe placement, image acquisition, interpretation and report
C8926	Transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) with contrast, or without contrast followed by with contrast, for congenital cardiac anomalies; including probe placement, image acquisition, interpretation and report
C8928	Transthoracic echocardiography w/contrast, real-time w/image documentation (2d), w/wo m-mode recording, during rest and cardiovascular stress test, w/interpretation and report
C8929	Transthoracic echocardiography with contrast, or without contrast followed by with contrast, real-time with image documentation (2d), includes m-mode recording, when performed, complete, with spectral doppler echocardiography, and with color flow doppler echocardiography
C8930	Transthoracic echocardiography, with contrast, or without contrast followed by with contrast, real-time with image documentation (2d), includes m-mode recording, when performed, during rest and cardiovascular stress test using treadmill, bicycle exercise and/or pharmacologically induced stress, with interpretation and report; including performance of continuous electrocardiographic monitoring, with physician supervision
78428	Cardiac Shunt Imaging
0331T	Myocardial sympathetic innervation imaging, planar qualitative and quantitative assessment;
0332T	Myocardial sympathetic innervation imaging, planar qualitative and quantitative assessment; with tomographic SPECT
93350	Echocardiography, transthoracic, real-time with image documentation (2d), with or without m-mode recording, during rest and cardiovascular stress test, with interpretation and report
93351	Echocardiography, transthoracic, real-time with image documentation (2d), includes m-mode recording, when performed, during rest and cardiovascular stress test using treadmill, bicycle exercise and/or pharmacologically induced stress, with interpretation
93352	Use of echocardiographic contrast agent during stress echocardiography (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

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