

# Carotid Procedures and Testing

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[Instructions for Use](#)

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Related Medicare Advantage Policy Guidelines
• <a href="#">Carotid Body Resection/Carotid Body Denervation (NCD 20.18)</a>
• <a href="#">Noninvasive Tests of Carotid Function (NCD 20.17)</a>

## Coverage Guidelines

Carotid procedures and testing are covered when Medicare coverage criteria are met.

### Carotid Body Resection

Carotid body resection is covered when criteria are met. Refer to the [NCD for Carotid Body Resection/Carotid Body Denervation \(20.18\)](#). (Accessed June 3, 2021)

### Non-Invasive Test of Carotid Function (Direct and Indirect)

Non-invasive test of carotid function (direct and indirect) is covered when criteria are met.

Refer to the [NCD for Noninvasive Tests of Carotid Function \(20.17\)](#) for coverage guideline. (Accessed June 3, 2021)

Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) and Local Coverage Articles (LCAs) exist and compliance with these policies is required where applicable. These LCDs/ LCAs are available at <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/new-search/search.aspx>. (Accessed June 3, 2021)

## Policy History/Revision Information

Date	Summary of Changes
06/14/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine review; no change to coverage guidelines</li> <li>Archived previous policy version MCS014.01</li> </ul>

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The benefit information in this Coverage Summary is based on existing national coverage policy; however, Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) may exist and compliance with these policies are required where applicable.

There are instances where this document may direct readers to a UnitedHealthcare Commercial Medical Policy, Medical Benefit Drug Policy, and/or Coverage Determination Guideline (CDG). In the absence of a Medicare National Coverage Determination (NCD), Local Coverage Determination (LCD), or other Medicare coverage guidance, CMS allows a Medicare Advantage Organization (MAO) to create its own coverage determinations, using objective evidence-based rationale relying on authoritative evidence ([Medicare IOM Pub. No. 100-16, Ch. 4, §90.5](#)).

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