Coverage Statement: Extracranial-Intracranial (EC-IC) arterial bypass surgery is not a covered procedure.

Guidelines/Notes:
1. Extracranial-Intracranial (EC-IC) arterial bypass surgery is not covered for the treatment of ischemic cerebrovascular disease of carotid or middle cerebral arteries, which includes the treatment or prevention of stroke. The premise that Extracranial-Intracranial (EC-IC) arterial bypass surgery which bypasses narrowed arterial segments improves the blood supply to the brain and reduces the risk of having a stroke has not been demonstrated to be any more effective than no surgical intervention. See the NCD for Extracranial-Intracranial (EC-IC) Arterial Bypass Surgery (20.2). (Accessed July 8, 2019)
III. REFERENCES

See above

IV. REVISION HISTORY

07/23/2019  Related Medicare Advantage Policy Guidelines
- Removed reference link to the policy titled Extracranial-Intracranial (EC-IC) Arterial Bypass Surgery (NCD 20.2) (retired)