

# ROBOTIC ASSISTED SURGERY POLICY (CES)

**Policy Number:** ADMINISTRATIVE 240.12C T0

**Effective Date:** January 1, 2020

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**Related Policies**

None

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The services described in Oxford policies are subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of the member's contract or certificate. Unless otherwise stated, Oxford policies do not apply to Medicare Advantage members. Oxford reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify policies as necessary without prior written notice unless otherwise required by Oxford's administrative procedures or applicable state law. The term Oxford includes Oxford Health Plans, LLC and all of its subsidiaries as appropriate for these policies.

Certain policies may not be applicable to Self-Funded members and certain insured products. Refer to the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage to determine whether coverage is provided or if there are any exclusions or benefit limitations applicable to any of these policies. If there is a difference between any policy and the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage, the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage will govern.

UnitedHealthcare may also use tools developed by third parties, such as the MCG™ Care Guidelines, to assist us in administering health benefits. The MCG™ Care Guidelines are intended to be used in connection with the independent professional medical judgment of a qualified health care provider and do not constitute the practice of medicine or medical advice.

## APPLICABLE LINES OF BUSINESS/PRODUCTS

This policy applies to Oxford Commercial plan membership.

## APPLICATION

This reimbursement policy applies to services reported using the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (a/k/a CMS-1500) or its electronic equivalent or its successor form. This policy applies to all network and non-network physicians and other qualified health care professionals, including, but not limited to, non-network authorized and percent of charge contract physicians and other healthcare professionals.

## OVERVIEW

The Health Care Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code S2900 [Surgical techniques requiring use of robotic surgical system (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)] describes a computer-aided tool used in performing a specific surgical procedure. Oxford considers S2900 not separately reimbursable.

## REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES

According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), medical and surgical procedures should be reported with the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)/HCPCS codes that most comprehensively describe the services performed.

Oxford considers code S2900, (Surgical techniques requiring use of robotic surgical system [list separately in addition to code for primary procedure]) to be a technique integral to the primary surgical procedure and not a separately reimbursed service. When a surgical procedure is performed using code S2900, reimbursement will be considered included as part of the primary surgical procedure.

Use of Modifier 22 (increased procedural services) appended to the primary surgical procedure is not appropriate if used exclusively for the purpose of reporting the use of robotic assistance. Modifier 22 may only be used when substantial additional work is performed, (i.e., increased intensity, time, technical difficulty of procedure, severity of patient's condition, and physical and mental effort required) that is unrelated to robotic assistance. Documentation must demonstrate the reason for the substantial additional work performed during the surgical procedure. See the Oxford Increased Procedural Services Reimbursement Policy for additional information on modifier 22.

#### APPLICABLE CODES

The following list(s) of procedure and/or diagnosis codes is provided for reference purposes only and may not be all inclusive. Listing of a code in this policy does not imply that the service described by the code is a covered or non-covered health service. Benefit coverage for health services is determined by the member specific benefit plan document and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. The inclusion of a code does not imply any right to reimbursement or guarantee claim payment. Other Policies may apply.

HCPCS Code	Description
S2900	Surgical techniques requiring use of robotic surgical system (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

#### REFERENCES

The foregoing Oxford policy has been adapted from an existing UnitedHealthcare national policy that was researched, developed and approved by UnitedHealthcare Reimbursement Policy Oversight Committee. [2019R0114A]

American Medical Association, *Coding with Modifiers*.

American Medical Association, *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)* and associated publications and services.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System, HCPCS Release and Code Sets.

#### POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

Date	Action/Description
01/01/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine review; no change to reimbursement guidelines</li> <li>Archived previous policy version ADMINISTRATIVE 240.11C T0</li> </ul>