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**Summary**

This policy addresses reimbursement for pulse oximetry services.

**Policy Statement**

Oximetry measures oxygen saturation using a non-invasive probe. Pulse oximetry is frequently a component of monitoring for other diagnostic studies and treatments commonly performed by pulmonologists, respiratory care practitioners, and other providers in many settings.

Pulse oximetry is considered a technical service involving no physician work component, and such technical services are not payable to physicians or nonphysician providers in any setting.

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes for pulse oximetry, 94760 and 94761, are assigned a “T” status by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Consistent with CMS, Medica considers these CPT codes bundled into any other service provided on the same date by the same individual physician or other health care professional for which payment is made.

**Definitions**

**Status Indicator T** – Injections. There are Relative Value Units (RVUs) and payment amounts for these services, but they are only paid if there are no other services payable under the physician fee schedule billed on the same date by the same provider. If any other services payable under the physician fee schedule are billed on the same date by the same provider, these services are bundled into the physician services for which payment is made. (NOTE: This is a change from the previous definition, which states that injection services are bundled into any other services billed on the same date.)

**Same Individual Physician or other Health Care Professional** – The same individual rendering health care services reporting the same federal tax identification number.

**Code Lists**

94760 – Noninvasive ear or pulse oximetry for oxygen saturation; single determination

94761 – Noninvasive ear or pulse oximetry for oxygen saturation; multiple determinations (e.g., during exercise)

**Resources**

- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- National Physician Fee Schedule (NPFS)
Effective Date  
06/01/2007 (Formerly included in Bundled Services policy)

Revision Updates
07/20/2018 Annual policy review
06/08/2017 Annual policy review
06/09/2016 Annual policy review
07/23/2015 Annual policy review