

Category III Codes

Policy Number: EXPERIMENTAL 004.9

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[Instructions for Use](#)

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Related Policy

- [Omnibus Codes](#)

Coverage Rationale

See [Benefit Considerations](#)

Due to the specific purpose that the [CPT Category III codes](#) serve, the procedures, services, or items represented by these codes are generally considered experimental, investigational, or unproven and not medically necessary due to insufficient evidence of efficacy unless specifically addressed in another UnitedHealthcare Policy. Refer to the [Applicable Codes](#) section.

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 (COC).

CPT Code	Description
0234T	Transluminal peripheral atherectomy, open or percutaneous, including radiological supervision and interpretation; renal artery
0235T	Transluminal peripheral atherectomy, open or percutaneous, including radiological supervision and interpretation; visceral artery (except renal), each vessel
0236T	Transluminal peripheral atherectomy, open or percutaneous, including radiological supervision and interpretation; abdominal aorta
0237T	Transluminal peripheral atherectomy, open or percutaneous, including radiological supervision and interpretation; brachiocephalic trunk and branches, each vessel
0333T	Visual evoked potential, screening of visual acuity, automated, with report
0347T	Placement of interstitial device(s) in bone for radiostereometric analysis (RSA)
0348T	Radiologic examination, radiostereometric analysis (RSA); spine, (includes cervical, thoracic and lumbosacral, when performed)

CPT Code	Description
0349T	Radiologic examination, radiostereometric analysis (RSA); upper extremity(ies), (includes shoulder, elbow, and wrist, when performed)
0350T	Radiologic examination, radiostereometric analysis (RSA); lower extremity(ies), (includes hip, proximal femur, knee, and ankle, when performed)
0419T	Destruction of neurofibroma, extensive (cutaneous, dermal extending into subcutaneous); face, head and neck, greater than 50 neurofibromas
0420T	Destruction of neurofibroma, extensive (cutaneous, dermal extending into subcutaneous); trunk and extremities, extensive, greater than 100 neurofibromas
0494T	Surgical preparation and cannulation of marginal (extended) cadaver donor lung(s) to ex vivo organ perfusion system, including decannulation, separation from the perfusion system, and cold preservation of the allograft prior to implantation, when performed
0495T	Initiation and monitoring marginal (extended) cadaver donor lung(s) organ perfusion system by physician or qualified health care professional, including physiological and laboratory assessment (e.g., pulmonary artery flow, pulmonary artery pressure, left atrial pressure, pulmonary vascular resistance, mean/peak and plateau airway pressure, dynamic compliance and perfusate gas analysis), including bronchoscopy and X ray when performed; first two hours in sterile field
0524T	Endovenous catheter directed chemical ablation with balloon isolation of incompetent extremity vein, open or percutaneous, including all vascular access, catheter manipulation, diagnostic imaging, imaging guidance and monitoring
0541T	Myocardial imaging by magnetocardiography (MCG) for detection of cardiac ischemia, by signal acquisition using minimum 36 channel grid, generation of magnetic-field time-series images, quantitative analysis of magnetic dipoles, machine learning-derived clinical scoring, and automated report generation, single study;
0542T	Myocardial imaging by magnetocardiography (MCG) for detection of cardiac ischemia, by signal acquisition using minimum 36 channel grid, generation of magnetic-field time-series images, quantitative analysis of magnetic dipoles, machine learning-derived clinical scoring, and automated report generation, single study; interpretation and report
0546T	Radiofrequency spectroscopy, real time, intraoperative margin assessment, at the time of partial mastectomy, with report
0547T	Bone-material quality testing by microindentation(s) of the tibia(s), with results reported as a score
0554T	Bone strength and fracture risk using finite element analysis of functional data, and bone-mineral density, utilizing data from a computed tomography scan; retrieval and transmission of the scan data, assessment of bone strength and fracture risk and bone mineral density, interpretation and report
0555T	Bone strength and fracture risk using finite element analysis of functional data, and bone-mineral density, utilizing data from a computed tomography scan; retrieval and transmission of the scan data
0556T	Bone strength and fracture risk using finite element analysis of functional data, and bone-mineral density, utilizing data from a computed tomography scan; assessment of bone strength and fracture risk and bone mineral density
0557T	Bone strength and fracture risk using finite element analysis of functional data, and bone-mineral density, utilizing data from a computed tomography scan; interpretation and report
0558T	Computed tomography scan taken for the purpose of biomechanical computed tomography analysis
0564T	Oncology, chemotherapeutic drug cytotoxicity assay of cancer stem cells (CSCs), from cultured CSCs and primary tumor cells, categorical drug response reported based on percent of cytotoxicity observed, a minimum of 14 drugs or drug combinations
0572T	Insertion of substernal implantable defibrillator electrode
0573T	Removal of substernal implantable defibrillator electrode
0574T	Repositioning of previously implanted substernal implantable defibrillator-pacing electrode

CPT Code	Description
0575T	Programming device evaluation (in person) of implantable cardioverter-defibrillator system with substernal electrode, with iterative adjustment of the implantable device to test the function of the device and select optimal permanent programmed values with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional
0576T	Interrogation device evaluation (in person) of implantable cardioverter-defibrillator system with substernal electrode, with analysis, review and report by a physician or other qualified health care professional, includes connection, recording and disconnection per patient encounter
0577T	Electrophysiologic evaluation of implantable cardioverter-defibrillator system with substernal electrode (includes defibrillation threshold evaluation, induction of arrhythmia, evaluation of sensing for arrhythmia termination, and programming or reprogramming of sensing or therapeutic parameters)
0578T	Interrogation device evaluation(s) (remote), up to 90 days, substernal lead implantable cardioverter-defibrillator system with interim analysis, review(s) and report(s) by a physician or other qualified health care professional
0579T	Interrogation device evaluation(s) (remote), up to 90 days, substernal lead implantable cardioverter-defibrillator system, remote data acquisition(s), receipt of transmissions and technician review, technical support and distribution of results
0580T	Removal of substernal implantable defibrillator pulse generator only
0587T	Percutaneous implantation or replacement of integrated single device neurostimulation system for bladder dysfunction including electrode array and receiver or pulse generator, including analysis, programming, and imaging guidance when performed, posterior tibial nerve
0588T	Revision or removal of percutaneously placed integrated single device neurostimulation system for bladder dysfunction including electrode array and receiver or pulse generator, including analysis, programming, and imaging guidance when performed, posterior tibial nerve
0589T	Electronic analysis with simple programming of implanted integrated neurostimulation system for bladder dysfunction (e.g., electrode array and receiver), including contact group(s), amplitude, pulse width, frequency (Hz), on/off cycling, burst, dose lockout, patient-selectable parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed-loop parameters, and passive parameters, when performed by physician or other qualified health care professional, posterior tibial nerve, 1-3 parameters
0590T	Electronic analysis with complex programming of implanted integrated neurostimulation system for bladder dysfunction (e.g., electrode array and receiver), including contact group(s), amplitude, pulse width, frequency (Hz), on/off cycling, burst, dose lockout, patient-selectable parameters, responsive neurostimulation, detection algorithms, closed-loop parameters, and passive parameters, when performed by physician or other qualified health care professional, posterior tibial nerve, 4 or more parameters
0594T	Osteotomy, humerus, with insertion of an externally controlled intramedullary lengthening device, including intraoperative imaging, initial and subsequent alignment assessments, computations of adjustment schedules, and management of the intramedullary lengthening device
0600T	Ablation, irreversible electroporation; 1 or more tumors per organ, including imaging guidance, when performed, percutaneous
0601T	Ablation, irreversible electroporation; 1 or more tumors, including fluoroscopic and ultrasound guidance, when performed, open
0602T	Glomerular filtration rate (GFR) measurement(s), transdermal, including sensor placement and administration of a single dose of fluorescent pyrazine agent
0603T	Glomerular filtration rate (GFR) monitoring, transdermal, including sensor placement and administration of more than one dose of fluorescent pyrazine agent, each 24 hours
0604T	Optical coherence tomography (OCT) of retina, remote, patient-initiated image capture and transmission to a remote surveillance center unilateral or bilateral; initial device provision, set-up and patient education on use of equipment

CPT Code	Description
0605T	Optical coherence tomography (OCT) of retina, remote, patient-initiated image capture and transmission to a remote surveillance center unilateral or bilateral; remote surveillance center technical support, data analyses and reports, with a minimum of 8 daily recordings, each 30 days
0606T	Optical coherence tomography (OCT) of retina, remote, patient-initiated image capture and transmission to a remote surveillance center unilateral or bilateral; review, interpretation and report by the prescribing physician or other qualified health care professional of remote surveillance center data analyses, each 30 days
0607T	Remote monitoring of an external continuous pulmonary fluid monitoring system, including measurement of radiofrequency-derived pulmonary fluid levels, heart rate, respiration rate, activity, posture, and cardiovascular rhythm (e.g., ECG data), transmitted to a remote 24-hour attended surveillance center; set-up and patient education on use of equipment
0608T	Remote monitoring of an external continuous pulmonary fluid monitoring system, including measurement of radiofrequency-derived pulmonary fluid levels, heart rate, respiration rate, activity, posture, and cardiovascular rhythm (e.g., ECG data), transmitted to a remote 24-hour attended surveillance center; analysis of data received and transmission of reports to the physician or other qualified health care professional
0615T	Eye-movement analysis without spatial calibration, with interpretation and report
0616T	Insertion of iris prosthesis, including suture fixation and repair or removal of iris, when performed; without removal of crystalline lens or intraocular lens, without insertion of intraocular lens
0617T	Insertion of iris prosthesis, including suture fixation and repair or removal of iris, when performed; with removal of crystalline lens and insertion of intraocular lens
0618T	Insertion of iris prosthesis, including suture fixation and repair or removal of iris, when performed; with secondary intraocular lens placement or intraocular lens exchange
0619T	Cystourethroscopy with transurethral anterior prostate commissurotomy and drug delivery, including transrectal ultrasound and fluoroscopy, when performed
0620T	Endovascular venous arterialization, tibial or peroneal vein, with transcatheter placement of intravascular stent graft(s) and closure by any method, including percutaneous or open vascular access, ultrasound guidance for vascular access when performed, all catheterization(s) and intraprocedural roadmapping and imaging guidance necessary to complete the intervention, all associated radiological supervision and interpretation, when performed
0643T	Transcatheter left ventricular restoration device implantation including right and left heart catheterization and left ventriculography when performed, arterial approach
0644T	Transcatheter removal or debulking of intracardiac mass (e.g., vegetations, thrombus) via suction (e.g., vacuum, aspiration) device, percutaneous approach, with intraoperative reinfusion of aspirated blood, including imaging guidance, when performed
0648T	Quantitative magnetic resonance for analysis of tissue composition (e.g., fat, iron, water content), including multiparametric data acquisition, data preparation and transmission, interpretation and report, obtained without diagnostic MRI examination of the same anatomy (e.g., organ, gland, tissue, target structure) during the same session; single organ
0649T	Quantitative magnetic resonance for analysis of tissue composition (e.g., fat, iron, water content), including multiparametric data acquisition, data preparation and transmission, interpretation and report, obtained with diagnostic MRI examination of the same anatomy (e.g., organ, gland, tissue, target structure); single organ (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
0652T	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transnasal; diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, when performed (separate procedure)
0653T	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transnasal; with biopsy, single or multiple
0654T	Esophagogastroduodenoscopy, flexible, transnasal; with insertion of intraluminal tube or catheter

CPT Code	Description
0659T	Transcatheter intracoronary infusion of supersaturated oxygen in conjunction with percutaneous coronary revascularization during acute myocardial infarction, including catheter placement, imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy), angiography, and radiologic supervision and interpretation
0660T	Implantation of anterior segment intraocular nonbiodegradable drug-eluting system, internal approach
0661T	Removal and reimplantation of anterior segment intraocular nonbiodegradable drug-eluting implant
0662T	Scalp cooling, mechanical; initial measurement and calibration of cap
0673T	Ablation, benign thyroid nodule(s), percutaneous, laser, including imaging guidance
0686T	Histotripsy (i.e., non-thermal ablation via acoustic energy delivery) of malignant hepatocellular tissue, including image guidance
0689T	Quantitative ultrasound tissue characterization (non-elastographic), including interpretation and report, obtained without diagnostic ultrasound examination of the same anatomy (e.g., organ, gland, tissue, target structure)
0691T	Automated analysis of an existing computed tomography study for vertebral fracture(s), including assessment of bone density when performed, data preparation, interpretation, and report
0695T	Body surface-activation mapping of pacemaker or pacing cardioverter-defibrillator lead(s) to optimize electrical synchrony, cardiac resynchronization therapy device, including connection, recording, disconnection, review, and report; at time of implant or replacement
0696T	Body surface-activation mapping of pacemaker or pacing cardioverter-defibrillator lead(s) to optimize electrical synchrony, cardiac resynchronization therapy device, including connection, recording, disconnection, review, and report; at time of follow-up interrogation or programming device evaluation
0699T	Injection, posterior chamber of eye, medication
0707T	Injection(s), bone substitute material (e.g., calcium phosphate) into subchondral bone defect (i.e., bone marrow lesion, bone bruise, stress injury, microtrabecular fracture), including imaging guidance and arthroscopic assistance for joint visualization
0708T	Intradermal cancer immunotherapy; preparation and initial injection
0721T	Quantitative computed tomography (CT) tissue characterization, including interpretation and report, obtained without concurrent CT examination of any structure contained in previously acquired diagnostic imaging
0723T	Quantitative magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography (QMRCP) including data preparation and transmission, interpretation and report, obtained without diagnostic magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) examination of the same anatomy (e.g., organ, gland, tissue, target structure) during the same session
0733T	Remote body and limb kinematic measurement-based therapy ordered by a physician or other qualified health care professional; supply and technical support, per 30 days
0734T	Remote body and limb kinematic measurement-based therapy ordered by a physician or other qualified health care professional; treatment management services by a physician or other qualified health care professional, per calendar month
0737T	Xenograft implantation into the articular surface
0740T	Remote autonomous algorithm-based recommendation system for insulin dose calculation and titration; initial set-up and patient education
0741T	Remote autonomous algorithm-based recommendation system for insulin dose calculation and titration; provision of software, data collection, transmission, and storage, each 30 days
0743T	Bone strength and fracture risk using finite element analysis of functional data and bone-mineral density, with concurrent vertebral fracture assessment, utilizing data from a computed tomography scan, retrieval and transmission of the scan data, measurement of bone strength and bone mineral density and classification of any vertebral fractures, with overall fracture risk assessment, interpretation and report
0748T	Injections of stem cell product into perianal perifistular soft tissue, including fistula preparation (e.g., removal of setons, fistula curettage, closure of internal openings)

CPT Code	Description
0765T	Assistive algorithmic electrocardiogram risk-based assessment for cardiac dysfunction (e.g., low-ejection fraction, pulmonary hypertension, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy); related to previously performed electrocardiogram
0771T	Virtual reality (VR) procedural dissociation services provided by the same physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the VR procedural dissociation supports, requiring the presence of an independent, trained observer to assist in the monitoring of the patient's level of dissociation or consciousness and physiological status; initial 15 minutes of intraservice time, patient age 5 years or older
0773T	Virtual reality (VR) procedural dissociation services provided by a physician or other qualified health care professional other than the physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the VR procedural dissociation supports; initial 15 minutes of intraservice time, patient age 5 years or older
0791T	Motor-cognitive, semi-immersive virtual reality–facilitated gait training, each 15 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
0792T	Application of silver diamine fluoride 38%, by a physician or other qualified health care professional
0794T	Patient-specific, assistive, rules-based algorithm for ranking pharmaco-oncologic treatment options based on the patient's tumor-specific cancer marker information obtained from prior molecular pathology, immunohistochemical, or other pathology results which have been previously interpreted and reported separately
0795T	Transcatheter insertion of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography) and device evaluation (e.g., interrogation or programming), when performed; complete system (i.e., right atrial and right ventricular pacemaker components)
0796T	Transcatheter insertion of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography) and device evaluation (e.g., interrogation or programming), when performed; right atrial pacemaker component (when an existing right ventricular single leadless pacemaker exists to create a dual-chamber leadless pacemaker system)
0797T	Transcatheter insertion of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography) and device evaluation (e.g., interrogation or programming), when performed; right ventricular pacemaker component (when part of a dual-chamber leadless pacemaker system)
0798T	Transcatheter removal of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography), when performed; complete system (i.e., right atrial and right ventricular pacemaker components)
0799T	Transcatheter removal of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography), when performed; right atrial pacemaker component
0800T	Transcatheter removal of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography), when performed; right ventricular pacemaker component (when part of a dual-chamber leadless pacemaker system)
0801T	Transcatheter removal and replacement of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography) and device evaluation (e.g., interrogation or programming), when performed; dual-chamber system (i.e., right atrial and right ventricular pacemaker components)

CPT Code	Description
0802T	Transcatheter removal and replacement of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography) and device evaluation (e.g., interrogation or programming), when performed; right atrial pacemaker component
0803T	Transcatheter removal and replacement of permanent dual-chamber leadless pacemaker, including imaging guidance (e.g., fluoroscopy, venous ultrasound, right atrial angiography, right ventriculography, femoral venography) and device evaluation (e.g., interrogation or programming), when performed; right ventricular pacemaker component (when part of a dual-chamber leadless pacemaker system)
0807T	Pulmonary tissue ventilation analysis using software-based processing of data from separately captured cinefluorograph images; in combination with previously acquired computed tomography (CT) images, including data preparation and transmission, quantification of pulmonary tissue ventilation, data review, interpretation and report
0808T	Pulmonary tissue ventilation analysis using software-based processing of data from separately captured cinefluorograph images; in combination with computed tomography (CT) images taken for the purpose of pulmonary tissue ventilation analysis, including data preparation and transmission, quantification of pulmonary tissue ventilation, data review, interpretation and report
0811T	Remote multi-day complex uroflowmetry (e.g., calibrated electronic equipment); set-up and patient education on use of equipment
0812T	Remote multi-day complex uroflowmetry (e.g., calibrated electronic equipment); device supply with automated report generation, up to 10 days
0815T	Ultrasound-based radiofrequency echographic multi-spectrometry (REMS), bone-density study and fracture-risk assessment, 1 or more sites, hips, pelvis, or spine
0820T	Continuous in-person monitoring and intervention (e.g., psychotherapy, crisis intervention), as needed, during psychedelic medication therapy; first physician or other qualified health care professional, each hour

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Description of Services

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) Category III codes are a set of temporary codes that allow physicians and other qualified health care professionals to identify and submit for emerging technology, services, and procedures for clinical efficacy, utilization, and outcomes. The assignment of these codes from the AMA offers the opportunity for specific data collection unlike unlisted codes, which requires specific documentation describing the procedure.

Unlike Category I CPT® codes, these do not necessitate FDA approval and therefore have been placed in a separate section of the CPT book. Per the AMA, “the inclusion of a service or procedure in this section does not constitute a finding of support, or lack thereof, with regard to clinical efficacy, safety, applicability to clinical practice, or payer coverage.”

Category III codes may or may not eventually receive a Category I code. “In general, a given Category III code will be archived five years from the date of initial publication or extension unless a modification of the archival date is specifically noted at the time of a revision or change to a code.” (AMA, 2024)

Benefit Considerations

Services that are not medically necessary; experimental or investigational; or unproven are excluded from coverage on most plans. The fact that such services may be the only available treatment(s) for a particular condition will not result in benefits if the service is considered to be not medically necessary; experimental or investigational; or unproven in the treatment of that particular condition. This exclusion does not apply to certain covered health care services provided during a clinical trial for which benefits may be provided under the benefit plan document.

References

The foregoing Oxford policy has been adapted from an existing UnitedHealthcare national policy that was researched, developed and approved by UnitedHealthcare Medical Technology Assessment Committee. [2024T0644I]

American Medical Association (AMA). Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) book. Chicago, IL. 2024.

UnitedHealthcare Oxford Insurance Company Generic Certificate of Coverage, 2018.

Policy History/Revision Information

Date	Summary of Changes
05/01/2024	Applicable Codes <ul style="list-style-type: none">Removed CPT code 0810T Supporting Information <ul style="list-style-type: none">Archived previous policy version EXPERIMENTAL 004.8

Instructions for Use

This Clinical Policy provides assistance in interpreting UnitedHealthcare Oxford standard benefit plans. When deciding coverage, the member specific benefit plan document must be referenced as the terms of the member specific benefit plan may differ from the standard plan. In the event of a conflict, the member specific benefit plan document governs. Before using this policy, please check the member specific benefit plan document and any applicable federal or state mandates. UnitedHealthcare Oxford reserves the right to modify its Policies as necessary. This Clinical Policy is provided for informational purposes. It does not constitute medical advice.

The term Oxford includes Oxford Health Plans, LLC and all of its subsidiaries as appropriate for these policies. Unless otherwise stated, Oxford policies do not apply to Medicare Advantage members.

UnitedHealthcare may also use tools developed by third parties, such as the InterQual® criteria, to assist us in administering health benefits. UnitedHealthcare Oxford Clinical Policies 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.