Preauthorization is not required.

The following protocol contains medical necessity criteria that apply for this service. The criteria are also applicable to services provided in the local Medicare Advantage operating area for those members, unless separate Medicare Advantage criteria are indicated. If the criteria are not met, reimbursement will be denied and the patient cannot be billed. Please note that payment for covered services is subject to eligibility and the limitations noted in the patient’s contract at the time the services are rendered.

RELATED PROTOCOL
Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation for Aortic Stenosis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Populations</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
<th>Comparators</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals: • With a history of congenital heart disease and current right ventricular outflow tract obstruction</td>
<td>Interventions of interest are: • Transcatheter pulmonary valve implantation with an FDA-approved device and indication</td>
<td>Comparators of interest are: • Open surgical pulmonary valve replacement or reconstruction</td>
<td>Relevant outcomes include: • Overall survival • Symptoms • Functional outcomes • Quality of life • Hospitalizations • Treatment-related mortality • Treatment-related morbidity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individuals: • With a history of congenital heart disease and current right ventricular outflow tract obstruction</td>
<td>Interventions of interest are: • Transcatheter pulmonary valve implantation with a non-FDA-approved device or indication</td>
<td>Comparators of interest are: • Open surgical pulmonary valve replacement or reconstruction</td>
<td>Relevant outcomes include: • Overall survival • Symptoms • Functional outcomes • Quality of life • Hospitalizations • Treatment-related mortality • Treatment-related morbidity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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DESCRIPTION
Transcatheter pulmonary valve implantation (TPVI) is a less invasive alternative to open surgical pulmonary valve replacement or reconstruction for right ventricular outflow tract (RVOT) obstruction. Percutaneous pulmonary valve replacement may be indicated for congenital pulmonary stenosis. Pulmonary stenosis or regurgitation in a patient with congenital heart disease who has previously undergone RVOT surgery are additional indications. Patients with prior congenital heart disease repair are at risk of needing repeated reconstruction procedures.
SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE
For individuals who have a history of congenital heart disease and current RVOT obstruction who receive TPVI with a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved device and indication, the evidence includes a systematic review of retrospective comparative studies and prospective, interventional, noncomparative studies. Relevant outcomes are overall survival, symptoms, functional outcomes, quality of life, hospitalizations, and treatment-related mortality and morbidity. Results of the case series have indicated that there is a high rate of procedural success and low procedural mortality, although the rates of serious procedural adverse events reported ranged from 3.0% to 7.4%. Most valves have demonstrated competent functioning by Doppler echocardiography at 6- to 12-month follow-ups. Publications with longer follow-up have reported stent fractures in up to 26% of patients; however, most stent fractures did not require reintervention. Studies with follow-up extending to a maximum of 7 years post-procedure have suggested that the functional and hemodynamic improvements are durable, but a relatively high proportion of patients (20% to 30%) have required reintervention on the pulmonary valve. Retrospective comparative studies have been reported, but are limited by differences in patient characteristics between those who are treated with percutaneous and open heart procedures. The evidence is insufficient to determine that the technology results in an improvement in the net health outcome.

For individuals who have a history of congenital heart disease and current RVOT obstruction who receive TPVI with a non-FDA-approved device or indication, the evidence includes case series. Relevant outcomes are overall survival, symptoms, functional outcomes, quality of life, hospitalizations, and treatment-related mortality and morbidity. There is limited evidence on the off-label use of TPVI including the use of a non-FDA-approved valve or use of an approved valve for a non-FDA-approved indication. The published case series enrolled relatively few patients and are heterogeneous regarding devices used and indications for TPVI. The evidence is insufficient to determine that the technology results in an improvement in the net health outcome.

POLICY
Transcatheter pulmonary valve implantation with a Food and Drug Administration-approved valve is considered medically necessary for patients with congenital heart disease and current right ventricular outflow tract obstruction (RVOT) or regurgitation including the following indications:

- Individuals with right ventricle-to-pulmonary artery conduit with or without bioprosthetic valve with at least moderate pulmonic regurgitation;
- Individuals with native or patched RVOT with at least moderate pulmonic regurgitation;
- Individuals with right ventricle-to-pulmonary artery conduit with or without bioprosthetic valve with pulmonic stenosis (mean RVOT gradient at least 35 mm Hg); or
- Individuals with native or patched RVOT with pulmonic stenosis (mean RVOT gradient at least 35 mm Hg).

Transcatheter pulmonary valve implantation is considered investigational for all other indications.

BACKGROUND
CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE
Congenital heart disease, including tetralogy of Fallot, pulmonary atresia, and transposition of the great arteries, is generally treated by surgical repair at an early age. This involves reconstruction of the right ventricular outflow tract (RVOT) and pulmonary valve using a surgical homograft or a bovine-derived valve conduit. These repairs are prone to development of pulmonary stenosis or regurgitation over long periods of follow-up. Individuals liv-
ing with congenital heart disease also face disparities in social determinants of health and the inability to obtain quality lifelong care for their condition which can contribute to inequities in morbidity and mortality.\textsuperscript{1}

Because individuals with surgically corrected congenital heart disease repair are living into adulthood, RVOT dysfunction following initial repair has become more common. Calcification of the RVOT conduit can lead to pulmonary stenosis, while aneurysmal dilatation can result in pulmonary regurgitation. RVOT dysfunction can lead to decreased exercise tolerance, potentially fatal arrhythmias, and/or irreversible right ventricular dysfunction.\textsuperscript{2}

Treatment

Treatment options for pulmonary stenosis are open surgery with valve replacement, balloon dilatation, or percutaneous stenting.\textsuperscript{2} The established interventions for pulmonary regurgitation are primarily surgical, either reconstruction of the RVOT conduit or replacement of the pulmonary valve. The optimal timing of these interventions is not well understood.\textsuperscript{3}

**REGULATORY STATUS**

Devices for transcatheter pulmonary valve implantation were initially cleared from marketing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) through the humanitarian device exemption (HDE) process or used off-label until approved by FDA through the premarket approval (PMA) (see Table 1).

**Table 1. Regulatory Status of Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve Implantation Devices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Date Approved</th>
<th>PMA No.</th>
<th>Indications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melody® Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve (TPV)</td>
<td>Medtronic</td>
<td>Jan 2010</td>
<td>H080002 (HDE)</td>
<td>Pulmonary valve replacement for pediatric and adult patients with a dysfunctional, noncompliant RVOT conduit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melody TPV</td>
<td>Medtronic</td>
<td>Jan 2015</td>
<td>P140017</td>
<td>Pulmonary valve replacement for pediatric and adult patients with a dysfunctional, noncompliant RVOT conduit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melody TPV</td>
<td>Medtronic</td>
<td>Feb 2017</td>
<td>P140017/S005</td>
<td>Valve-in-valve for patients with a dysfunctional surgical bioprosthesis pulmonary valve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAPIEN XT™ Transcatheter Heart Valve (pulmonic)</td>
<td>Edwards Lifesciences</td>
<td>Feb 2016</td>
<td>P130009/S037</td>
<td>Pulmonary valve replacement for pediatric and adult patients with a dysfunctional, noncompliant RVOT conduit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HDE: humanitarian device exemption; PMA: premarket approval; RVOT: right ventricular outflow tract.

In January 2010, the Melody® TPV and the Ensemble® Transcatheter Valve Delivery System (Medtronic) were approved by FDA under the HDE program for use as an adjunct to surgery in the management of pediatric and adult patients with the following clinical conditions:

- Existence of a full (circumferential) RVOT conduit that is 16 mm or greater in diameter when originally implanted, and
- Dysfunctional RVOT conduits with clinical indication for intervention, and either:
  - regurgitation: moderate-to-severe regurgitation, or
  - stenosis: mean RVOT gradient $\geq$35 mm Hg.

On January 27, 2015, approval of the Melody system was amended to a PMA because FDA determined that the device represented a breakthrough technology. The PMA was based, in part, on two prospective clinical studies, the Melody TPV Long-term Follow-up Post Approval Study and the Melody TPV New Enrollment Post Approval Study.
On February 24, 2017, approval of the Melody system was expanded to include patients with a dysfunctional surgical bioprosthetic valve (valve-in-valve).

The Edwards SAPIEN XT™ Transcatheter Heart Valve (Pulmonic) (Edwards Lifesciences) was approved by FDA in 2016 “for use in pediatric and adult patients with a dysfunctional, noncompliant Right Ventricular Outflow Tract (RVOT) conduit with a clinical indication for intervention and:

• pulmonary regurgitation ≥ moderate and/or
• mean RVOT gradient ≥35 mmHg.”

The approval for the pulmonic valve indication is a supplement to the 2014 PMA for use of the Edwards SAPIEN XT Transcatheter Heart Valve System for relief of aortic stenosis in patients with symptomatic heart disease due to severe native calcific aortic stenosis and who are judged by a heart team, including a cardiac surgeon, to be at high or greater risk for open surgical therapy (i.e., Society of Thoracic Surgeons operative risk score ≥8% or at a ≥15% risk of mortality at 30 days).

The Harmony™ Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve (Medtronic) received breakthrough technology status in 2019 and PMA in 2021. This device is indicated “for use in pediatric and adult patients with severe pulmonary regurgitation (determined by echocardiography and/or pulmonary regurgitant fraction ≥30% by cardiac magnetic resonance imaging) who have a native or surgically-repaired right ventricular outflow tract and are clinically indicated for surgical pulmonary valve replacement.”

FDA product code: NPV

Services that are the subject of a clinical trial do not meet our Technology Assessment and Medically Necessary Services Protocol criteria and are considered investigational. For explanation of experimental and investigational, please refer to the Technology Assessment and Medically Necessary Services Protocol.

It is expected that only appropriate and medically necessary services will be rendered. We reserve the right to conduct prepayment and postpayment reviews to assess the medical appropriateness of the above-referenced procedures. Some of this protocol may not pertain to the patients you provide care to, as it may relate to products that are not available in your geographic area.

REFERENCES

We are not responsible for the continuing viability of web site addresses that may be listed in any references below.


