



Peripheral Atherectomy, Non-Lower Extremity

Clinical Guidelines for Medical Necessity Review

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Important Notices

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Guideline Information:

Specialty Area: Cardiology

Guideline Name: Peripheral Atherectomy, Non-Lower Extremity

Literature review current through: 9/25/2023

Document last updated: 9/25/2023

Type: Adult (18+ yo) | Pediatric (0-17yo)

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Medical Necessity Criteria

Service: Peripheral Atherectomy, Non-Lower Extremity

General Guidelines

- **Units, Frequency, & Duration:** Service is experimental/investigational.
- **Criteria for Subsequent Requests:** Service is experimental/investigational.
- **Recommended Clinical Approach:** Peripheral atherectomy clears arteries that are blocked to increase blood flow; a catheter with a blade at the end removes the plaque from the vessel wall.^{1,2}
- **Exclusions:** This policy addresses peripheral atherectomy of non-lower extremity peripheral arteries (including but not limited to upper extremity arteries, visceral arteries, and the brachiocephalic trunk and its branches). However, there may be unique clinical scenarios where this procedure is considered medically necessary and supported by the medical literature (i.e., “off-label use”).

Medical Necessity Criteria

Indications

- **Peripheral Atherectomy, Non-Lower Extremity** is considered appropriate if **ALL** of the following are **TRUE**:
- ◆ Currently, there are no evidence-based indications for this service in the peer-reviewed, published literature.

Non-Indications

- **Peripheral Atherectomy, Non-Lower Extremity** are not considered appropriate if **ALL** of the following are **TRUE**:
- ◆ This procedure is considered experimental/ investigational for treating non-lower extremity peripheral artery disease (PAD)

Site of Service Criteria

Inpatient or Outpatient.

Procedure Codes (HCPCS/CPT)

HCPCS/CPT Code	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 of the abdominal aorta
0237T	Transluminal peripheral atherectomy, open or percutaneous, including radiological supervision and interpretation; brachiocephalic trunk and branches, each vessel

Medical Evidence

Published literature focuses on peripheral atherectomy of the lower extremity. The following organizations have published guidelines on treating and managing peripheral artery disease; however, they do not address atherectomy of an upper extremity artery.

- American College of Cardiology (ACC) in partnership with the American Heart Association (AHA), Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI), Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR), and the Society for Vascular Medicine (SVM)³⁻⁴
- Canadian Cardiovascular Society⁵
- European Society of Cardiology (ESC) in partnership with the European Stroke Organization (ESO) and the European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS)¹

References

1. Aboyans V, Ricco JB, ESC Scientific Document Group, et al. 2017 ESC guidelines on the diagnosis and treatment of peripheral arterial diseases, in collaboration with the European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS): Document covering atherosclerotic disease of extracranial carotid and vertebral, mesenteric, renal, upper and lower extremity arteries. *Eur Heart J*. 2018 Mar 1;39(9):763–816. doi: 10.1093/eurheartj/ehx095. PMID: 28886620.
2. Wardle BG, Ambler GK, Radwan RW, et al. Atherectomy for peripheral arterial disease. *Cochrane Database Syst Rev*. 2020 Sep 29;9(9):CD006680. doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD006680.pub3. PMID: 32990327; PMCID: PMC8513671.
3. Bailey SR, Beckman JA, Dao TD, et al. ACC/AHA/SCAI/SIR/SVM 2018 appropriate use criteria for peripheral artery intervention: A report of the American College of Cardiology Appropriate Use Criteria Task Force, American Heart Association, Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, Society of Interventional Radiology, and Society for Vascular Medicine. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2019 Jan 22;73(2):214–237. doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2018.10.002. PMID: 30573393.
4. Gerhard-Herman MD, Gornik HL, Barrett C, et al. 2016 AHA/ACC guideline on the management of patients with lower extremity peripheral artery disease: Executive summary – a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Clinical Practice Guidelines. *Circulation*. 2017 Mar 21;135(12):e686–e725. doi: 10.1161/CIR.0000000000000470. PMID: 27840332; PMCID: PMC5479414.
5. Abramson BL, Al-Omran M, Anand SS, et al. Canadian Cardiovascular Society 2022 guidelines for peripheral arterial disease. *Can J Cardiol*. 2022 May;38(5):560–587. doi: 10.1016/j.cjca.2022.02.029. PMID: 35537813.

Clinical Guideline Revision History/Information

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