

Home Prothrombin (PT) Monitoring

Policy Number: PG0185
Last Review: 09/01/2023

HMO AND PPO
ELITE (MEDICARE ADVANTAGE)
MARKETPLACE

GUIDELINES:

- This policy does not certify benefits or authorization of benefits, which is designated by each individual policyholder terms, conditions, exclusions, and limitations contract. It does not constitute a contract or guarantee regarding coverage or reimbursement/payment. Self-Insured group specific policy will supersede this general policy when group supplementary plan document or individual plan decision directs otherwise.
- Paramount applies coding edits to all medical claims through coding logic software to evaluate the accuracy and adherence to accepted national standards.
- This medical policy is solely for guiding medical necessity and explaining correct procedure reporting used to assist in making coverage decisions and administering benefits.

SCOPE:

☒ Professional
☒ Facility

DESCRIPTION:

Prothrombin time (PT) home monitoring systems are portable, battery-operated instruments for the quantitative determination of PT from fingerstick whole blood. These products are designed to aid in the management of patients requiring long-term oral anticoagulation therapy for indications such as mechanical heart valves, atrial fibrillation, and venous thromboembolism. There are several types of point of care (POC) PT monitors on the market, including office, anticoagulation clinic, or home settings. For home testing, the instrument selected should be extremely easy to use with a limited number of steps.

The FDA has approved portable testing devices that are available by prescription for home use as Class II devices through the 510(k) process. They include, but are not limited to:

- ProTIME® microcoagulation analyzer (International Technidyne Corporation [ITC], Edison, NJ)
- CoaguChek® XS System and CoaguChek® PST (Roche Diagnostics Corporation, Indianapolis, IN)
- Alere INRatio®2 PT/INR Home Monitoring System (HemoSense, Milpitas, CA)
- AvoSure™ PT (Avocet Medical Inc., San Jose, CA)

The studies evaluating the use of POC PT monitors indicate that the monitors are accurate and can be used appropriately by selected patients with adequate training who are motivated to perform self-testing. PT monitor limitations include the necessity for proper finger stick blood sample technique for accurate results. Definitive patient selection criteria have not been established for self-monitoring of anticoagulation therapy. PT self-monitoring by patients receiving long-term warfarin therapy had been shown to be accurate and effective in maintaining anticoagulant control within target therapeutic ranges. Published studies have demonstrated that there are advantages to patient self-testing and that this testing is effective as anti-coagulation clinics in maintaining the quality of anticoagulation therapy. Guidelines from professional organizations include the use of POC monitors for selected patients who have received training.

Data management systems including the software associated with home PT monitors is considered a convenience and not medically necessary. There is insufficient peer-reviewed literature to support the use of data management systems in improving health outcomes in this population.

POLICY:

Paramount Commercial Insurance Plans and Elite (Medicare Advantage) Plans

- **Home prothrombin monitoring (93792, 93793, G0248-G0250) does not require prior authorization.**

COVERAGE CRITERIA:

Paramount Commercial Insurance Plans and Elite (Medicare Advantage) Plans

Home prothrombin monitoring may be medically necessary for chronic, oral anticoagulation management for patients with mechanical heart valves, chronic atrial fibrillation, or venous thromboembolism (inclusive of deep venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism) on warfarin when ALL the following requirements are met:

1. The patient must have been anticoagulated for at least 3 months prior to use of the home INR device and require long term (greater than one year) anticoagulation.
2. The patient must undergo a face-to-face educational program on anticoagulation management and must have demonstrated the correct use of the device prior to its use in the home.
3. The patient continues to correctly use the device in the context of the management of the anticoagulation therapy following the initiation of home monitoring.
4. Self-testing with the device should not occur more frequently than once a week.

Prothrombin time home testing units are considered experimental/investigational for all other indications (e.g., arterial embolism to the eye, atrial flutter, and Kawasaki disease) because its effectiveness for indications other than the ones listed above has not been established.

Paramount does not cover any type of remote monitoring and/or software/hardware required for downloading data from home prothrombin time testing systems to computers for the management of anticoagulation because each is considered a convenience item and not medically necessary. This includes, but may not be limited to mobile health (mHealth) applications for portable handheld devices (e.g., smart phones, tablets, readers), the devices

themselves, computers, and computer software. Although they may be prescribed by a health care practitioner, mHealth apps are available without a written order or prescription and may be obtained over the counter (OTC) and are therefore excluded.

CODING/BILLING INFORMATION:

The appearance of a code in this section does not necessarily indicate coverage. Codes that are covered may have selection criteria that must be met. Payment for supplies may be included in payment for other services rendered.

CPT CODES

93792	Patient/caregiver training for initiation of home international normalized ratio (INR) monitoring under the direction of a physician or other qualified health care professional, face-to-face, including use and care of the INR monitor, obtaining blood sample, instructions for reporting home INR test results, and documentation of patient's/caregiver's ability to perform testing and report results
93793	Anticoagulant management for a patient taking warfarin, must include review and interpretation of a new home, office, or lab international normalized ratio (INR) test result, patient instructions, dosage adjustment (as needed), and scheduling of additional test(s), when performed

HCPCS CODES

G0248	Demonstration, prior to initiation of home INR monitoring, for patient with either mechanical heart valve(s), chronic atrial fibrillation, or venous thromboembolism who meets Medicare coverage criteria, under the direction of a physician; includes face-to-face demonstration of use and care of the INR monitor, obtaining at least one blood sample, provision of instructions for reporting home INR test results, and documentation of patient's ability to perform testing and report results
G0249	Provision of test materials and equipment for home INR monitoring of patient with either mechanical heart valve(s), chronic atrial fibrillation, or venous thromboembolism who meets Medicare coverage criteria; includes provision of materials for use in the home and reporting of test results to physician; testing not occurring more frequently than once a week; testing materials, billing units of service include 4 tests
G0250	Physician review, interpretation, and patient management of home INR testing for patient with either mechanical heart valve(s), chronic atrial fibrillation, or venous thromboembolism who meets

Medicare coverage criteria; testing not occurring more frequently than once a week; billing units of service include 4 tests

REVISION HISTORY EXPLANATION: ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/2008

Date	Explanation & Changes
05/15/2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No changes
02/01/2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No changes
04/01/2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No changes
02/12/2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No changes
11/10/2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Changed title from Home Protime Testing Services to Home Prothrombin (PT) MonitoringPolicy reviewed and updated to reflect most current clinical evidence per Medical Policy Steering Committee
10/11/2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Home prothrombin monitoring (G0248-G0250) will now be covered without prior authorization for HMO, PPO, Individual Marketplace, & Advantage product linesPolicy reviewed and updated to reflect most current clinical evidence per Medical Policy Steering Committee
01/09/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added effective 01/01/18 new codes 93792 & 93793 as covered without prior authorization for all product linesFor Advantage claims with dates of service prior to January 1, 2018, report HCPCS codes G0248-G0250For Advantage claims with dates of service on or after January 1, 2018, report CPT codes 93792 & 93793Policy reviewed and updated to reflect most current clinical evidence per Medical Policy Steering Committee
12/15/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Medical policy placed on the new Paramount Medical Policy Format
02/13/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Medical Policy updated to reflect Medicaid coverage to Anthem as of 02/01/2023
09/01/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Medical Policy reviewed and updated to reflect the most current clinical evidence
03/04/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Medical Policy placed on the new Paramount Medical Policy format

Paramount reserves the right to review and revise our policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to

<https://www.paramounthealthcare.com/providers/medical-policies/policy-library>

REFERENCES/RESOURCES

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS Manual System and other CMS publications and services <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals> <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Internet-Only-Manuals-IOMs>

American Medical Association, *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)* and associated publications and services <https://www.ama-assn.org/amaone/cpt-current-procedural-terminology>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System, HCPCS Release and Code Sets <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/HCPCSReleaseCodeSets/HCPCS-Quarterly-Update>

U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, <https://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/>
Industry Standard Review

Hayes, Inc., <https://www.hayesinc.com/>

Industry Standard Review