

ANNUAL

2019

# The Essential RBRVS

A comprehensive listing of RBRVS values for CPT® and HCPCS codes

Sample page



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# Introduction

## Development

*The Essential RBRVS* incorporates the relative values produced by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) into a comprehensive reference of resource-based relative value scale (RBRVS) relative values.

Even though RBRVS was developed specifically for assigning reimbursement rates to Medicare services, over 75 percent of non-Medicare payers use Medicare RBRVS to establish fees or maximum allowables for physician services. This works well for those services assigned relative values by CMS for Medicare. However, because Medicare does not assign a value to all services, the MPFS has gaps. In order to create a complete RBRVS-based fee schedule, these gap services need to have relative values assigned.

### The Essential RBRVS Gap Methodology

The gaps in *The Essential RBRVS* are created when the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) does not provide values for procedure or supply codes. The gaps are created using various methodologies depending on the code.

For most codes, gap relative values are calculated by using relative value information from the Optum Relative Value Scale and adjusted to a scale similar to the MPFS relative values (RBRVS). The Optum relative values are developed by and are proprietary to Optum. Optum relative values are assigned when Optum has an understanding of how the procedure is typically billed by the industry and how it relates to other procedures. Relative values are based on difficulty, time, work, risk, and resources. Relative values are established by Optum employees, including an Optum Medical Director, clinicians, certified procedural coders, and analysts. Optum also consults with a panel of outside physicians and dentists during the relative value development process for certain codes.

Because Optum relative values are on a different scale than RBRVS relative values, we develop ratios relating the RBRVS and Optum scales for approximately 250 code ranges (within the CPT®, HCPCS, and CDT systems). These ratios are multiplied by the Optum relative value to create the gap value. If Optum does not assign a relative value to a code, a gap value is not calculated. An example of the methodology is as follows (numbers used are for example purposes only): Procedure code 15828 is not valued in the MPFS. Optum has a relative value of 185 for this procedure code. The calculated ratio of Optum to the MPFS relative value units for

the range of codes that this procedure code falls in is .366. The gap value would be  $185 \times .366 = 67.70$ .

Codes that are valued by Medicare's Clinical Lab Fee Schedule (CLAB); Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics/Orthotics, & Supplies Fee Schedule (DMEPOS); or the Medicare ASP (average sale price) drug pricing files are treated differently. For these codes, the dollar values (national limit in CLAB) are used and relative values are created by dividing the dollar amounts by the MPFS national conversion factor. The CLAB, DMEPOS, and ASP files used are the most recent available at the time of printing. These files may update throughout the year.

**Note:** Gap relative values should not be used to calculate a Medicare reimbursement rate. In addition, the gap work relative value should not be used to calculate the outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) rate.

## Features

*The Essential RBRVS* is the most comprehensive resource-based relative value scale available. Below are *The Essential RBRVS* features:

- Physician services, including those not part of the MPFS.
- Clinical laboratory services.
- Level II codes, such as durable medical equipment (DME), medical and surgical supplies, and transportation.
- J codes (injectable drugs).
- Appendix A — This table provides the information necessary to determine if Medicare allows or makes adjustments to payment for the following: PC/TC component, assistant-at-surgery, multiple procedures, bilateral procedures, co-surgery or team surgery. The preop, intraop, and postop splits, the endoscopic base code, as well as the indicator identifying the level of physician supervision of diagnostic tests, if any, are also listed in appendix A. The special payment rules for each are identified at the beginning of the table.
- Appendix B — Payment for the technical component (TC) portion of a radiology service will be limited to the lesser of the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) amount or the Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) amount. This is referred to by CMS as the OPPS cap on the technical component of radiology services.

Code	M	S	Description	Work Value	Non-Fac PE	Fac PE	Mal-practice	Non-Fac Total	Fac Total	Global	Gap	OPPS
75957		C	not involving coverage of left subclavian artery origin, initial endoprosthesis plus descending thoracic aortic extension(s), if required, to level of celiac artery origin, radiological supervision and interpretation	6.00	1.38	1.38	1.08	8.46	8.46	XXX	■	
26	A			6.00	1.38	1.38	1.08	8.46	8.46	XXX		
TC	C			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■	
75958		C	Placement of proximal extension prosthesis for endovascular repair of descending thoracic aorta (eg, aneurysm, pseudoaneurysm, dissection, penetrating ulcer, intramural hematoma, or traumatic disruption), radiological supervision and interpretation	4.00	0.92	0.92	0.71	5.63	5.63	XXX	■	
26	A			4.00	0.92	0.92	0.71	5.63	5.63	XXX		
TC	C			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■	
75959		C	Placement of distal extension prosthesis(s) (delayed) after endovascular repair of descending thoracic aorta, as needed, to level of celiac origin, radiological supervision and interpretation	3.50	0.80	0.80	0.64	4.94	4.94	XXX	■	
26	A			3.50	0.80	0.80	0.64	4.94	4.94	XXX		
TC	C			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■	
75970		C	Transcatheter biopsy, radiological supervision and interpretation	0.83	11.11	11.11	0.62	12.56	12.56	XXX	■	
26	A			0.83	0.25	0.25	0.05	1.13	1.13	XXX		
TC	C			0.00	10.86	10.86	0.57	11.43	11.43	XXX	■	
75984		A	Change of percutaneous tube or drainage catheter with contrast monitoring (eg, genitourinary system, abscess), radiological supervision and interpretation	0.72	2.23	2.23	0.05	3.00	3.00	XXX		
26	A			0.72	0.23	0.23	0.04	0.99	0.99	XXX		
TC	A			0.00	2.00	2.00	0.01	2.01	2.01	XXX		
75989		A	Radiological guidance (ie, fluoroscopy, ultrasound, or computed tomography), for percutaneous drainage (eg, abscess, specimen collection), with placement of catheter, radiological supervision and interpretation	1.19	2.16	2.16	0.09	3.44	3.44	XXX		
26	A			1.19	0.39	0.39	0.08	1.66	1.66	XXX		
TC	A			0.00	1.77	1.77	0.01	1.78	1.78	XXX		
▲	76000	A	Fluoroscopy (separate procedure), up to 1 hour physician or other qualified health care professional time	0.17	1.15	1.15	0.03	1.35	1.35	XXX		Y
	26	A		0.17	0.06	0.06	0.02	0.25	0.25	XXX		
	TC	A		0.00	1.09	1.09	0.01	1.10	1.10	XXX		Y
	76001	C	Fluoroscopy, physician or other qualified health care professional time more than 1 hour, assisting a nonradiologic physician or other qualified health care professional (eg, nephrostolithotomy, ERCP, bronchoscopy, transbronchial biopsy)	0.67	3.27	3.27	0.26	4.20	4.20	XXX	■	
	26	A		0.67	0.28	0.28	0.10	1.05	1.05	XXX		
	TC	C		0.00	2.99	2.99	0.16	3.15	3.15	XXX	■	
	76010	A	Radiologic examination from nose to rectum for foreign body, single view, child	0.18	0.54	0.54	0.02	0.74	0.74	XXX		Y
	26	A		0.18	0.07	0.07	0.01	0.26	0.26	XXX		
	TC	A		0.00	0.47	0.47	0.01	0.48	0.48	XXX		Y
	76080	A	Radiologic examination, abscess, fistula or sinus tract study, radiological supervision and interpretation	0.54	0.97	0.97	0.04	1.55	1.55	XXX		Y
	26	A		0.54	0.17	0.17	0.03	0.74	0.74	XXX		
	TC	A		0.00	0.80	0.80	0.01	0.81	0.81	XXX		Y
	76098	A	Radiological examination, surgical specimen	0.16	0.30	0.30	0.02	0.48	0.48	XXX		Y
	26	A		0.16	0.06	0.06	0.01	0.23	0.23	XXX		
	TC	A		0.00	0.24	0.24	0.01	0.25	0.25	XXX		Y
	76100	A	Radiologic examination, single plane body section (eg, tomography), other than with urography	0.58	1.95	1.95	0.06	2.59	2.59	XXX		Y
	26	A		0.58	0.27	0.27	0.05	0.90	0.90	XXX		
	TC	A		0.00	1.68	1.68	0.01	1.69	1.69	XXX		Y
	76101	A	Radiologic examination, complex motion (ie, hypercycloidal) body section (eg, mastoid polytomography), other than with urography; unilateral	0.58	2.30	2.30	0.13	3.01	3.01	XXX		Y
	26	A		0.58	0.11	0.11	0.12	0.81	0.81	XXX		
	TC	A		0.00	2.19	2.19	0.01	2.20	2.20	XXX		Y
	76102	A	bilateral	0.58	4.14	4.14	0.10	4.82	4.82	XXX		Y-
	26	A		0.58	0.33	0.33	0.08	0.99	0.99	XXX		
	TC	A		0.00	3.81	3.81	0.02	3.83	3.83	XXX		Y-
	76120	A	Cineradiography/videoradiography, except where specifically included	0.38	2.21	2.21	0.03	2.62	2.62	XXX		Y
	26	A		0.38	0.11	0.11	0.02	0.51	0.51	XXX		
	TC	A		0.00	2.10	2.10	0.01	2.11	2.11	XXX		Y

+ Add-on ★ Telemedicine # Resequenced © Modifier 63 Exempt

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Code	M	S	Description	Work Value	Non-Fac PE	Fac PE	Mal-practice	Non-Fac Total	Fac Total	Global	Gap
85048		X	leukocyte (WBC), automated	0.00	0.09	0.09	0.00	0.09	0.09	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.09	0.09	0.00	0.09	0.09	XXX	■
85049		X	platelet, automated	0.00	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.15	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.15	XXX	■
85055		X	Reticulated platelet assay	0.00	0.99	0.99	0.00	0.99	0.99	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.99	0.99	0.00	0.99	0.99	XXX	■
85060		A	Blood smear, peripheral, interpretation by physician with written report	0.45	0.24	0.24	0.02	0.71	0.71	XXX	
85097		A	Bone marrow, smear interpretation	0.94	1.61	0.44	0.05	2.60	1.43	XXX	
85130		X	Chromogenic substrate assay	0.00	0.41	0.41	0.00	0.41	0.41	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.41	0.41	0.00	0.41	0.41	XXX	■
85170		X	Clot retraction	0.00	0.46	0.46	0.00	0.46	0.46	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.46	0.46	0.00	0.46	0.46	XXX	■
85175		X	Clot lysis time, whole blood dilution	0.00	0.57	0.57	0.00	0.57	0.57	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.57	0.57	0.00	0.57	0.57	XXX	■
85210		X	Clotting; factor II, prothrombin, specific	0.00	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.45	0.45	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.45	0.45	XXX	■
85220		X	factor V (AcG or proaccelerin), labile factor	0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
85230		X	factor VII (proconvertin, stable factor)	0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
85240		X	factor VIII (AHG), 1-stage	0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
85244		X	factor VIII related antigen	0.00	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.70	0.70	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.70	0.70	XXX	■
85245		X	factor VIII, VW factor, ristocetin cofactor	0.00	0.79	0.79	0.00	0.79	0.79	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.79	0.79	0.00	0.79	0.79	XXX	■
85246		X	factor VIII, VW factor antigen	0.00	0.79	0.79	0.00	0.79	0.79	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.79	0.79	0.00	0.79	0.79	XXX	■
85247		X	factor VIII, von Willebrand factor, multimeric analysis	0.00	0.79	0.79	0.00	0.79	0.79	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.79	0.79	0.00	0.79	0.79	XXX	■
85250		X	factor IX (PTC or Christmas)	0.00	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.65	0.65	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.65	0.65	XXX	■
85260		X	factor X (Stuart-Prower)	0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
85270		X	factor XI (PTA)	0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.61	0.61	XXX	■
85280		X	factor XII (Hageman)	0.00	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.66	0.66	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.66	0.66	XXX	■
85290		X	factor XIII (fibrin stabilizing)	0.00	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.56	0.56	XXX	■
26				0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	XXX	■
TC				0.00	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.56	0.56	XXX	■

■ RVU not developed by CMS. Gap value developed by Optum360.

▲ Revised Code

● New Code

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