

Title: Cochlear Implantation (CAG-00107R)

Decision: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is making changes to their National Coverage Determination (NCD) for Cochlear Implantation (50.3).

CMS is expanding coverage for cochlear implantation by broadening the patient criteria and removing the coverage requirement to participate in a CMS-approved clinical trial for individuals with hearing test scores of > 40% and ≤ 60 % .

What this means: Members with sensorineural, moderate-to-profound hearing loss who demonstrate sentence recognition test scores of less than or equal to 60% may be eligible for coverage of cochlear implantation without needing to participate in a clinical research study. Members must meet all other coverage requirements outlined in the Medicare NCD for Cochlear Implantation (50.3).

Members not meeting coverage criteria may still have coverage for cochlear implants when performed as part of a CMS-approved clinical trial.

Effective: September 26, 2022

This announcement can be found at: [Cochlear Implantation \(CAG-00107R\)](#)

HealthPartners is a health plan that contracts with both Medicare and the Minnesota Medical Assistance (Medicaid) program to provide benefits of both programs to enrollees.

HealthPartners is also a Cost plan and PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in HealthPartners depends on contract renewal. HealthPartners UnityPoint Health is a PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in HealthPartners UnityPoint Health depends on contract renewal.

H2462_90242 IR Approved 06/2015
H3416_90242 IR Approved 06/2017
H2422_90242 IR Approved 07/2015
H4882_90242 IR Approved 03/2018