

### Artificial heart, total

We provide coverage for this procedure for adult and pediatric members who meet medical necessity criteria. Submit authorization requests through the e-referral system.

The submitter will receive a prompt to complete a questionnaire to determine the appropriateness of the requested service. The questions are listed below.

If all questions are answered, e-referral will either approve or pend the case. If the case pends and we cannot authorize it, we will contact the provider for additional clinical information. Authorization is not a guarantee of payment.

Payment is based on established claim edits. We will retrospectively monitor compliance with this authorization requirement.

**Applicable procedure codes:** \*0051T, \*0052T, \*0053T, \*33927, \*33928, \*33929, \*33975, \*33976, \*33979, \*33981, \*33982, \*33983, \*33990, \*33991

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### See below for the questions you'll encounter in the e-referral system.

**Q** Is the device approved by the FDA OR received humanitarian device exemption (HDE) for pediatric patients age 16 years and under?

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for an implantable VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (VAD) for use on a patient post-cardiotomy (surgical procedure where an incision is made into the heart) and the patient cannot be weaned from cardiopulmonary bypass?

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for an implantable VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (VAD) for use on a patient as a bridge to heart transplantation who is currently listed as a heart transplantation candidate and not expected to survive until a donor heart can be obtained; OR the patient is undergoing evaluation to determine candidacy for heart transplantation?

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for an implantable VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (VAD) for use on a patient 16 years old or younger who is currently listed as a heart transplantation candidate and not expected to survive until a donor heart can be obtained; or is undergoing evaluation to determine candidacy for heart transplantation?

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for an implantable VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (VAD) for use on a patient with end-stage heart failure who IS NOT a candidate for human heart transplant AND meets ONE of the following (A or B)? A. New York Heart Association (NYHA) Class IV heart failure for >60 days B. NYHA Class III/IV heart failure for 28 days, received with over 14 days' support with intra-aortic balloon pump or dependent on IV inotropic agents, with two failed weaning attempts

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for an implantable VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (VAD) for use on a patient who IS NOT a candidate for human heart transplant for one or more of the following reasons (A-D)? A. Age over 65 years B. Insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus with end-organ damage C. Chronic renal failure (serum creatinine >2.5 mg/dL for >90 days) D. Presence of other clinically significant condition

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for a PERCUTANEOUS VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (PVAD) which will be used to provide short term circulatory support for a patient with severe cardiogenic shock who is unstable to the point where intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP) support would not be tolerated?

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for a PERCUTANEOUS VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (PVAD) which will be used as an adjunct to percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) for a patient with a cardiac ejection fraction of less than 35 percent and undergoing unprotected left main or last-remaining-conduit PCI?

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for a PERCUTANEOUS VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICE (PVAD) which will be used as an adjunct to percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) for a patient with three-vessel disease and an ejection fraction of less than 30 percent?

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A

**Q** Is the request for a TOTAL ARTIFICIAL HEART which will be used as a bridge (not as destination therapy) to heart transplantation for patients with biventricular failure who have no other reasonable medical or surgical treatment options and BOTH of the following (BOTH A and B)? A. Is ineligible for other univentricular or biventricular support devices B. Is currently listed as heart transplantation candidate OR undergoing evaluation to determine candidacy for heart transplantation and not expected to survive until a donor heart can be obtained

**A**  Possible answers:  Yes  No  N/A