

Clinical review is required for adult members (age ≥18). The medical necessity criteria are outlined below.

CPT codes: \*93653, \*93654 and \*93656

## Atrial fibrillation (AF) by ECG

One of the following must be met:

1. Paroxysmal atrial fibrillation and ALL:
  - a. Must have one of the following symptoms:
    - i. Presyncope or syncope by history
    - ii. Palpitations
    - iii. Chest pain or discomfort
    - iv. Dyspnea
  - b. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
2. Persistent atrial fibrillation and ALL:
  - a. Must have one of the following symptoms:
    - i. Presyncope or syncope by history
    - ii. Palpitations
    - iii. Chest pain or discomfort
    - iv. Dyspnea
  - b. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
3. Tachycardia post ablation at least 12 weeks prior AND:
  - a. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia

## Atrial flutter by ECG

One of the following must be met:

1. No history of ablation and ALL of the following:
  - a. Must have one of the following symptoms:
    - i. Presyncope or syncope by history
    - ii. Palpitations
    - iii. Chest pain or discomfort
    - iv. Dyspnea
  - b. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
2. Tachycardia post ablation AND:
  - a. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia

## Frequent monomorphic premature ventricular contractions (PVCs) by ECG

One of the following must be met:

1. Presyncope or syncope by history and All:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization

- c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
  - i. Drug toxicity
  - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
  - iii. Thyroid disorders
  - iv. Recent surgery
  - v. Myocardial ischemia
2. Palpitations and ALL:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
3. Chest pain or discomfort and ALL:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia

4. Dyspnea and ALL:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
5. Ejection fraction (EF) greater than or equal to 40% by testing and ALL:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
6. Tachycardia post ablation and BOTH:
  - a. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed  $\geq$  12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization

- b. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
  - i. Drug toxicity
  - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
  - iii. Thyroid disorders
  - iv. Recent surgery
  - v. Myocardial ischemia

## **Nonsustained (at least 30 seconds) ventricular tachycardia (VT) by ECG**

One of the following must be met:

- 1. Presyncope or syncope by history and ALL:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed  $\geq$  12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
- 2. Palpitations and ALL:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed  $\geq$  12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia

3. Chest pain or discomfort and ALL
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed  $\geq$  12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
4. Dyspnea and ALL:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization; AND transient or reversible causes excluded
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
5. Ejection fraction (EF) greater than or equal to 40% by testing and ALL:
  - a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired

- b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
6. Arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia/cardiomyopathy (ARVD/C) by testing and ALL:
- a. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
7. Tachycardia post ablation and BOTH:
- a. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - b. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia

## Preexcitation syndrome or Wolff-Parkinson-White (WPW) syndrome by ECG

1. Both of the following must be met:
  - a. One of the following symptoms or conditions:
    - i. Wide complex tachycardia
    - ii. Preexcited atrial fibrillation (AF) or atrial ventricular reentrant tachycardia (AVRT) by electrocardiogram (ECG)
    - iii. Cardiac arrest survivor
    - iv. High-risk occupation or hobby
    - v. Presyncope or syncope by history
    - vi. Palpitations
    - vii. Chest pain or discomfort
    - viii. Dyspnea
    - ix. Asymptomatic patient and further testing needed for risk stratification
    - x. Evaluation for surgical ablation of accessory pathway
    - xi. Tachycardia post ablation
  - b. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia

## Suspected atrioventricular nodal reentrant tachycardia (AVNRT) by ECG

## Suspected atrioventricular reentrant tachycardia (AVRT) by ECG

## Suspected focal atrial tachycardia by ECG

One of the following must be met:

1. No history of ablation and ALL:
  - a. Must have one of the following symptoms:
    - i. Presyncope or syncope by history
    - ii. Palpitations
    - iii. Chest pain or discomfort
    - iv. Dyspnea
  - b. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent or continued arrhythmia on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia



2. Tachycardia post ablation AND:
  - a. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia

## **Sustained (more than 30 seconds) ventricular tachycardia (VT) by ECG**

One of the following must be met:

1. Spontaneous monomorphic ventricular tachycardia (VT) and ALL of the following:
  - a. Must have one of the following symptoms:
    - i. Presyncope or syncope by history
    - ii. Palpitations
    - iii. Chest pain or discomfort
    - iv. Dyspnea
  - b. Must have treatment with one of the following:
    - i. Recurrent ventricular tachycardia (VT) on antiarrhythmic medication
    - ii. Antiarrhythmic medication contraindicated or not tolerated
    - iii. Long-term antiarrhythmic medication not desired
  - c. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed  $\geq$  12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - d. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
2. Bundle branch reentrant ventricular tachycardia (VT) and BOTH:
  - a. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization

- b. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
  - i. Drug toxicity
  - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
  - iii. Thyroid disorders
  - iv. Recent surgery
  - v. Myocardial ischemia
3. Ventricular tachycardia (VT) storm (urgent) and ALL of the following:
  - a. Arrhythmia refractory to medical treatment
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
4. Recurrent ventricular tachycardia (VT) post implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) insertion, and ALL:
  - a. Both of the following:
    - i. Change in drug treatment ineffective
    - ii. Implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) reprogramming ineffective
  - b. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization
  - c. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
    - i. Drug toxicity
    - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
    - iii. Thyroid disorders
    - iv. Recent surgery
    - v. Myocardial ischemia
5. Tachycardia post ablation AND BOTH:
  - a. Coronary artery disease (CAD) evaluation by testing and ONE:
    - i. No coronary artery disease (CAD) or ischemia
    - ii. Stenosis not significant enough to warrant revascularization
    - iii. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) or coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) performed at least 12 weeks prior
    - iv. Lesion not amenable to revascularization

## Authorization criteria: Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA), Cardiac

For Medicare Plus Blue, BCN commercial and BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup>

- b. Transient or reversible causes of the arrhythmia are excluded ALL:
  - i. Drug toxicity
  - ii. Electrolyte abnormalities
  - iii. Thyroid disorders
  - iv. Recent surgery
  - v. Myocardial ischemia

### References

Change Healthcare's InterQual<sup>®</sup> 2021 Procedures Adult Criteria, Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA), Cardiac