



Medicare Outpatient Transitional Pass-Through Payment for the aScope™ Duodeno: Coding and Payment Guide

Effective January 1, 2021

Medicare Outpatient Transitional Pass-Through Payment

Effective July 1, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the federal agency that administers the Medicare program, created a new transitional pass-through (TPT) category and new HCPCS C code for single-use endoscopes, such as the aScope™ Duodeno, used in performing endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) procedures in the hospital outpatient department (HOPD). TPT status remains in effect until June 30, 2023.

HOPDs may obtain additional, separate payment for devices with TPT status, in addition to payment for the procedure(s) furnished during the patient encounter. When applicable, hospitals should bill the newly established **HCPCS code C1748 – “Endoscope, single-use (i.e. disposable), upper GI, imaging/illumination device (insertable).”¹**

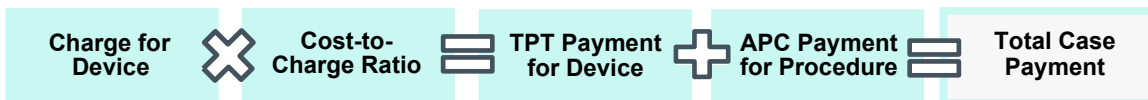
Application of TPT Payment in Non-Medicare Claims

TPT payment applies to patients with traditional Medicare; however, Medicaid, Medicare Advantage and commercial health plans may also recognize the C code and provide separate additional payment. Applicability of separate additional payment for HCPCS code C1748 is based on the hospital’s contract with the patient’s health plan. To determine if HCPCS code C1748 and separate payment applies to claims for non-Medicare patients, we suggest reviewing the hospital’s contract, or contacting the patient health plan for more information.

How TPT Payment Works

The payment for devices with TPT varies based on the hospital’s charge for the device, and the TPT payment is only available for certain procedures. Eligible procedures and their CPT codes are listed on page 3.

To calculate the TPT payment amount, the hospital’s charge amount for the device is adjusted by applying the hospital’s cost-to-charge-ratio (CCR) for the revenue center associated with the device. CMS determines each hospital’s CCR based on an analysis of their historic charges and costs. The total payment for the patient encounter will include the TPT payment as well as the APC payment associated with the reported CPT code(s).



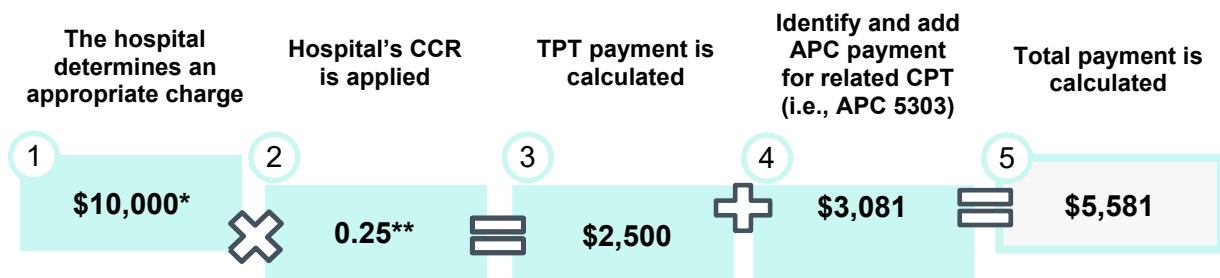
Please note that from July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020, CMS also applied a device offset to the TPT payment calculation. As of January 1, 2021, the offset is no longer applied.

TPT Payment Example

The following example shows how the TPT payment and the total procedure payment are determined:

- 1. Hospital establishes charge for the device.** The hospital will establish an appropriate charge for single-use duodenoscopes, taking into consideration the revenue center’s CCR and device cost.
- 2. Medicare applies the CCR to the established charge.** The hospital bills the charge to Medicare. Medicare then applies the revenue center CCR it has calculated for the hospital.
- 3. The TPT payment is calculated.** The charged amount is multiplied by the CCR to calculate the TPT payment.
- 4. APC payment added.** The APC payment for the related CPT code is added (e.g., the APC payment for CPT 43262 is \$3,081, rounded). See page 3 for the APC payment amounts for each TPT-eligible CPT code.
- 5. Total case payment is calculated.** Add the TPT payment to the APC payment for the related CPT code to calculate the total payment for the patient case.

Example Calculation



*Charge listed is for demonstration purposes only and is not a recommendation on how to charge for aScope Duodeno.

**CCR listed is for demonstration purposes only.

Coding for aScope Duodeno

HCPCS Code for Reporting Use of aScope Duodeno

HCPCS Code	Descriptor
C1748	Endoscope, single-use (i.e. disposable), upper GI, imaging/illumination device (insertable)

Revenue Codes

Revenue Code	Descriptor
272	Sterile supplies
278 ²	Medical/surgical supplies and implants; other implants

Coding and 2021 National Medicare Payment Rates for ERCP

CPT ³ Code	Descriptor	Physician Payment ⁴	HOPD Payment ⁵	APC
43260	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); diagnostic, including collection of specimen(s) by brushing or washing, when performed (separate procedure)	\$327	\$3,081	5303
43261	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with biopsy, single or multiple	\$343	\$3,081	5303
43262	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with sphincterotomy/papillotomy	\$363	\$3,081	5303
43263	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with pressure measurement of sphincter of Oddi	\$363	\$3,081	5303
43264	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal of calculi/debris from biliary/pancreatic duct(s)	\$370	\$3,081	5303
43265	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with destruction of calculi, any method (eg, mechanical, electrohydraulic, lithotripsy)	\$440	\$5,029	5331
43274	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with placement of endoscopic stent into biliary or pancreatic duct, including pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed, including sphincterotomy, when performed, each stent	\$470	\$5,029	5331
43275	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal of foreign body(s) or stent(s) from biliary/pancreatic duct(s)	\$382	\$3,081	5303
43276	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with removal and exchange of stent(s), biliary or pancreatic duct, including pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed, including sphincterotomy, when performed, each stent exchanged	\$489	\$5,029	5331
43277	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with trans-endoscopic balloon dilation of biliary/pancreatic duct(s) or of ampulla (sphincteroplasty), including sphincterotomy, when performed, each duct	\$384	\$3,081	5303
43278	Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP); with ablation of tumor(s), polyp(s), or other lesion(s), including pre- and post-dilation and guide wire passage, when performed	\$439	\$3,081	5303

About the aScope Duodeno

The aScope Duodeno is a single-use sterile duodenoscope that seamlessly integrates into existing hospital systems and offers an intuitive, lightweight design with similar functionality to reusable duodenoscopes. The aScope Duodeno is part of a system that includes a reusable process unit, the Ambu® aBox™ Duodeno. Duodenoscopes are used for visual examination of the duodenum and play a key role in diagnosis and treatment of conditions like gallstones, pancreatitis, and tumors or cancer in the bile duct and pancreas.

Indications for Use

The aScope Duodeno is designed to be used with the aBox Duodeno, endoscopic accessories (e.g. biopsy forceps) and other ancillary equipment (e.g. video monitor) for endoscopy and endoscopic surgery within the duodenum.

The aBox Duodeno is designed to be used with the aScope Duodeno, endoscopic accessories (e.g. biopsy forceps) and other ancillary equipment (e.g. medical grade video monitor) for endoscopy and endoscopic surgery within the duodenum.

References

1. Additional information regarding this new device category and TPT payment status for single-use endoscopes is available at: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/r10166cp.pdf> (See Section 7 and Tables 8 and 9) and <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/r10540cp.pdf> pg 87 (Dec.31, 2020).
2. Items that are insertable may be billed with revenue code 0278 per the National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC)'s Updated Guidance on Other Implant Revenue Code (0278) effective July 1, 2020 available at <https://www.nubc.org/system/files/media/file/2020/04/Guidance%20on%20Other%20Implant%20RC0278.pdf>
3. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association (AMA). Copyright 2020 AMA. All rights reserved. No fee schedules, basic units, relative value units, or related listings are included in CPT. The AMA assumes no liability for the data contained herein. Applicable FARS/DFARS restrictions apply to government use.
4. 2021 CMS PFS Final Rule, Addendum B (available on CMS website), 85 Fed. Reg. 248 (Dec. 28, 2020).
5. 2021 CMS OPPTS/ASC Final Rule, Addendum AA and B (available on CMS website), 85 Fed. Reg. 249 (Dec. 29, 2020).

Disclaimer

The reimbursement information provided in this Guide was obtained from third-party sources and information that is publicly available on the internet. The reported Medicare national average payments are subject to change and may vary based on geographic location and other individual factors. Information in this Guide is not legal advice, nor is it advice about how to code or complete claims for payment. It is the provider's responsibility to report the appropriate codes based on the procedures furnished to a specific patient and the patient's medical condition. Providers are also responsible for submitting claims for these services consistent with the specific payer billing requirements.

Payer billing, coding, and coverage requirements vary from payer to payer and are updated and change over time. Ambu encourages providers to verify current billing, coding and coverage policies and requirements with the specific payer if the provider has questions. Providers may also contact the American Gastroenterology Association (AGA), the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) and/or the American Medical Association (AMA).

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For more information, please contact the Ambu Reimbursement Support Team at us-reimbursement@ambu.com or (800) 262-8462, select option 7

For a customized cost analysis of reusable vs. single-use endoscopes, visit www.singleuseendoscopy.com/calculators or contact us-healthecon@ambu.com

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