

National Imaging Associates, Inc.	
Clinical guidelines	Original Date: March 26, 2008
HEART MRI	
CPT Codes: 75557, 75559, 75561, 75563 +75565	Last Revised Date: April February
	202 <u>3</u> 2
Guideline Number: NIA_CG_028	Implementation Date: January
	202 <u>4</u> 3

GENERAL INFORMATION

- It is an expectation that all patients receive care/services from a licensed clinician. All appropriate supporting documentation, including recent pertinent office visit notes, laboratory data, and results of any special testing must be provided. If applicable: All prior relevant imaging results and the reason that alternative imaging cannot be performed must be included in the documentation submitted.
- Where a specific clinical indication is not directly addressed in this guideline, medical necessity
 determination will be made based on widely accepted standard of care criteria. These criteria
 are supported by evidence-based or peer-reviewed sources such as medical literature, societal
 quidelines and state/national recommendations.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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INDICATIONS FOR CARDIAC MAGNETIC RESONANCE (CMR)

See Legislative Requirements for specific mandates in Washington State

Cardiomyopathy & Heart Failure 1, 2,3

 To assess systolic and diastolic function in the evaluation of a newly diagnosed cardiomyopathy

Page 1 of 23 Heart MRI

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- Suspected infiltrative disease such as amyloidosis, sarcoidosis⁴, hemochromatosis, or endomyocardial fibrosis if PET has not been performed
- Suspected inherited or acquired cardiomyopathy
- Diagnosis of acute myocarditis, with suspicion based upon new, unexplained findings such as:
 - Rise in troponin not clearly due to acute myocardial infarction
 - Change in ECG suggesting acute myocardial injury or pericarditis, without evident myocardial infarction
- Assessment of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy⁵
 - When TTE is inadequate for diagnosis, management or operative planning, or when tissue characterization (degree of fibrosis) will impact indications for ICD
 - For patients with LVH when there is a suspicion of alternative diagnoses, including infiltrative or storage disease as well as athlete's heart
 - For patients who are not otherwise as high risk for SCD, in whom the decision to proceed with an ICD is uncertain after assessment (which includes personal/family history, echocardiography), and CMR imaging is beneficial to assess for maximum LV wall thickness, ejection fraction (EF), LV apical aneurysm, and extent of myocardial fibrosis with LGE
 - For patients with obstructive HCM in whom the autonomic mechanism of obstruction is inconclusive on echocardiography, CMR is indicated for selection and planning of SRT (septal reduction therapy)
 - For patients with HCM, repeat imaging on a periodic basis (every 3-5 years) for the purpose of SCD risk stratification to evaluate changes in LGE, EF, development of apical aneurysm or LV wall thickness
- Arrhythmogenic right ventricular cardiomyopathy to aid in identification and diagnosis (assessment of myocardial fat, fibrosis, and RV tissue characteristics), based upon reason for suspicion, such as:
 - Nonsustained ventricular tachycardia (VT)
 - Unexplained syncope
 - ECG abnormalities
 - First-degree relatives with positive genotype for ARVD
- Noncompaction cardiomyopathy to aid in the diagnosis (measurement of compacted to noncompacted myocardium) when TTE is suggestive
- Clinical symptoms and signs consistent with a cardiac diagnosis known to cause presyncope/syncope (including, but not limited to, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy)
- Pulmonary hypertension in the absence of severe valvular disease

Valvular Heart Disease

- Evaluation of valvular stenosis, regurgitation, or valvular masses when transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) is inadequate⁶
- Pre-TAVR assessment if the patient has not undergone cardiac CT⁷



- Prior to transcatheter mitral valve intervention, when TTE and TEE result in uncertain assessment of the severity of mitral regurgitation^{8, 9}
- Suspected clinically significant bioprosthetic valvular dysfunction and inadequate images from TTE and TEE⁶

Evaluation of Intra- and Extra-Cardiac Structures

- Initial evaluation of cardiac mass, suspected tumor or thrombus, or potential cardiac source of emboli
- Re-evaluation of intracardiac mass when findings would change therapy
- Evaluation of pericardial disease to provide structural and functional assessment and differentiate constrictive vs restrictive physiology
- Assessment of left ventricular pseudoaneurysm, when TTE was inadequate
- Identification and characteristics of coronary aneurysms or anomalous coronary arteries

Pre-procedure Evaluation for Closure of ASD or PFO

- For assessment of atrial septal anatomy and atrial septal aneurysm
- For assessment of suitability for percutaneous device closure

Assessment Following LAA Occlusion

- For surveillance at 45 days or FDA guidance, if TEE or Heart CT was not done, to assess:
 - Device stability
 - Device leaks
 - To exclude device migration

Pre-Ablation Planning

• Evaluation of left atrium and pulmonary veins prior to radiofrequency ablation for atrial fibrillation, if cardiac CT has not been done

Aortic Pathology

- CT, MR, or echocardiogram can be used for screening and follow-up, with CT and MR preferred for imaging beyond the proximal ascending thoracic aorta
- Screening of first-degree relatives with a history of thoracic aortic aneurysm or dissection
- Six-month follow-up after initial diagnosis of thoracic aortic aneurysm to measure rate of change
- Annual follow-up for an enlarged thoracic aortic aneurysm (usually defined as > 4.4.cm)
- Biannual (2x/year) follow-up of enlarged aortic root or showing growth rate ≥ 0.5 cm/year



- Screening of first-degree relative with a bicuspid aortic valve
- Re-evaluation (<1 y) of the size and morphology of the aortic sinuses and ascending aorta in patients with a bicuspid AV and an ascending aortic diameter >4 cm with 1 of the following:
 - o Aortic diameter >4.5 cm
 - o Rapid rate of change in aortic diameter
 - o Family history (first-degree relative) of aortic dissection
- Patients with Turner's syndrome annually if an abnormality exists; if initial study normal, can have imaging every 5 - 10 years¹⁰
- Evaluation in patients with known or suspected connective tissue disease or genetic condition that predispose to aortic aneurysm or dissection, such as Marfan syndrome's, Ehlers-'s-Danlos or Loeys-Dietz syndrome (at the time of diagnosis and 6 months thereafter), followed by annual imaging (can be done more frequently if > 4.5 cm or rate of growth > 0.5 cm/year- up to twice per year)

Congenital Heart Disease (CHD)¹¹

- For all indications below, either CT or CMR can be done
- All lesions: evaluation prior to planned repair and evaluation for change in clinical status and/or new concerning signs or symptoms
- Patent Ductus Arteriosus: routine surveillance (1-2 years) in a patient with postprocedural aortic obstruction
- Eisenmenger Syndrome and Pulmonary Hypertension associated with CHD:
 - Evaluation due to change in pulmonary arterial hypertension-targeted therapy
 - Initial evaluation with suspicion of pulmonary hypertension following CHD surgery
- Aortic Stenosis or Regurgitation:
 - Routine surveillance (6-12 months) in a child with aortic sinus and/or ascending aortic dilation with increasing size
 - Routine surveillance (2–3 years) in a child with aortic sinus and/or ascending aortic dilation with stable size (CMR only)
- Aortic Coarctation and Interrupted Aortic Arch:
 - o Routine surveillance (3–5 years) in a child or adult with mild aortic coarctation
 - Post procedure (surgical or catheter-based) routine surveillance (3–5 years) in an asymptomatic patient to evaluate for aortic arch aneurysms, in-stent stenosis, stent fracture, or endoleak
- Coronary anomalies
- Tetralogy of Fallot:
 - Postoperative routine surveillance (2–3 years) in a patient with pulmonary regurgitation and preserved ventricular function (CMR only)



- Routine surveillance (2–3 years) in an asymptomatic patient with no or mild sequelae (CMR only)
- Routine surveillance (2–3 years) in a patient with valvular or ventricular dysfunction, right ventricular outflow tract obstruction, branch pulmonary artery stenosis, arrhythmias, or presence of an RV-to-PA conduit
- Double Outlet Right Ventricle: Routine surveillance (3–5 years) in an asymptomatic patient with no or mild sequelae (CMR only)
- D-Loop Transposition of the Great Arteries (postoperative):
 - o Routine surveillance (3–5 years) in an asymptomatic patient
 - Routine surveillance (1–2 years) in a patient with dilated aortic root with increasing size, or aortic regurgitation
 - Routine surveillance (3–12 months) in a patient with ≥moderate systemic AV valve regurgitation, systemic RV dysfunction, LVOT obstruction, or arrhythmias
- Congenitally Corrected Transposition of the Great Arteries:
 - o Unrepaired: routine surveillance (3–5 years) in an asymptomatic patient
 - o Postoperative: routine surveillance (3–5 years) in an asymptomatic patient
 - Postoperative anatomic repair: routine surveillance (6–12 months) in a patient with valvular or ventricular dysfunction, right or left ventricular outflow tract obstruction, or presence of an RV-to-PA conduit
 - Postoperative physiological repair with VSD closure and/or LV-to-PA conduit: routine surveillance (3–12 months) in a patient with ≥moderate systemic AV valve regurgitation, systemic RV dysfunction, and/or LV-to-PA conduit dysfunction
- Truncus Arteriosus: routine surveillance (1–2 years) in an asymptomatic child or adult with ≥ moderate truncal stenosis and/or regurgitation
- Single-Ventricle Heart Disease:
 - Postoperative routine surveillance (1–2 years) in an asymptomatic patient
 - Routine surveillance (1–2 years) in an asymptomatic adult postoperative Stage 2 palliation (CMR only)
- Ebstein's aAnomaly and Tricuspid Valve dysplasia (only CMR indicated):
 - Evaluation prior to planned repair and evaluation for change in clinical status and/or new concerning signs or symptoms
- Pulmonary Stenosis (only CMR indicated)
 - Unrepaired: routine surveillance (3–5 years) in an asymptomatic adult with PS and pulmonary artery dilation
 - Postprocedural (surgical or catheter-based): routine surveillance (1–3 years) in an asymptomatic adult with moderate or severe sequelae
- Pulmonary Atresia (postprocedural complete repair): routine surveillance (1-3 years) in an asymptomatic adult with ≥ moderate sequelae

Coronary Artery Disease Evaluation (CMR as an alternative to pharmacologic MPI)



CMR, which is done pharmacologically, is used for the assessment of coronary artery disease, and can be performed if the patient would otherwise be a candidate for a pharmacologic MPI.

- If the patient can walk and is having an MPI for another reason (LBBB, CABG, etc.), MPI is chosen over CMR
- Assessment of LV wall motion to identify patients with akinetic segments that would benefit from coronary revascularization
- To identify the extent and location of myocardial necrosis in patients with chronic or acute ischemic heart disease

Note: From Dr. Ashline on 04/18/2022: For MPI, SE, PET, MRI:

- Follow-up of known CAD (new bullet point)
 - Coronary stenosis of unclear significance on previous coronary angiography 3, 12

Ischemia guided approach for the evaluation of non-culprit (and possibly hemodynamically significant) CAD noted at the time of recent myocardial infarction

 To diagnose microvascular dysfunction in patients with persistent stable anginal chest pain with suspected ischemia and nonobstructive coronary artery disease (INOCA) as documented in provider notes (no MPI diversion required).

Where a specific clinical indication is not directly addressed in this quideline, medical necessity determination will be made based on widely accepted standard of care criteria. These criteria are supported by evidence based or peer reviewed sources such as medical literature, societal auidelines, and state/national recommendations.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Washington State

- Health Technology Clinical Committee (HTCC) findings Washington State, HCA Issue #34297
 - Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Angiography (CMRA) is a covered benefit for adults and children with known or suspected coronary vessel anomalies or congenital heart disease.
 - CMRA is a covered benefit with conditions for stable symptomatic adults with known or suspected Coronary Artery Disease (CAD).
 - <u>Limitations of Coverage</u>: CMRA should not be a first line diagnostic tool in patients with stable symptoms consistent with CAD. CMRA is covered with conditions for stable symptomatic adults with known or suspected CAD when the following conditions are met:



- In consultation with a cardiologist, AND
- The patient is unable to tolerate or safely participate in other noninvasive anatomic or functional testing.
- CMRA is not a covered service in Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) patients without
 CAD symptoms, or in those requiring cardiac lead placement unless cardiac vascular anomalies are suspected.
- Echocardiography continues to be the first tool to rule out medical issues and CMRA is only appropriate if clinical questions are not answered.

Source: Washington State Health Care Authority¹⁴, June 1, 2023

BACKGROUND¹⁵

- CMR is an imaging modality used to assess cardiac or vascular anatomy, function, perfusion, and tissue characteristics in a single examination. In lesions affecting the right heart, CMR provides excellent visualization and volume determination regardless of RV shape. This is particularly useful in patients with congenital heart disease
- CMR Safety¹⁶⁻¹⁹
 Since many cardiac patients have cardiac implanted electrical devices, the risk of CMR to the patient and the device must be weighed against the benefit to the patient in terms of clinical value in optimal management.

Cardiac magnetic imaging (CMR) is often required when transthoracic echocardiography (TTE) and transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) provide inadequate imaging data.

Stress CMR for assessment of coronary artery disease (CAD) is performed pharmacologically either as:

- Vasodilator perfusion imaging with gadolinium contrast; OR
- Dobutamine inotropic wall motion (ventriculography)

With respect to CAD evaluation, since CMR is only pharmacologic (non-exercise stress), and stress echocardiography (SE) or myocardial perfusion imaging (MPI) provide similar information about CAD:

- Requests for stress CMR require diversion to exercise SE first, and to exercise MPI second.
- **Exemptions** for the diversion to SE or exercise MPI:
 - If body habitus or marked obesity (e.g., BMI \geq 40) would interfere significantly with imaging with SE and MPI²⁰
 - Evaluation of young (< 55 years old) patients with documented complex CAD, who are likely to need frequent non-invasive coronary ischemia evaluation and/or frequent radiation exposure from other testing²¹



OVERVIEW

CMR in CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE (CAD)12, 22, 23

Stable patients without known CAD fall into 2 categories^{12, 22, 23}:

- **Asymptomatic**, for whom global risk of CAD events can be determined from coronary risk factors, using calculators available online
- **Symptomatic,** for whom we estimate the pretest probability that their chest-related symptoms are due to clinically significant (≥ 50%) CAD (below):

The 3 Types of Chest Pain or Discomfort

- Typical Angina (Definite) is defined as including all 3 characteristics:
 - Substernal chest pain or discomfort with characteristic quality and duration
 - Provoked by exertion or emotional stress
 - Relieved by rest and/or nitroglycerine
- Atypical Angina (Probable) has only 2 of the above characteristics
- Nonanginal Chest Pain/Discomfort has only 0 1 of the above characteristics

The medical record should provide enough detail to establish the type of chest pain. From those details, The Pretest Probability of obstructive CAD is estimated from the <u>Diamond</u> <u>Forrester Table</u> below, recognizing that in some cases multiple additional coronary risk factors could increase pretest probability¹²:



Diamond Forrester Table

Age (Years)	Gender	Typical/Definite Angina Pectoris	Atypical/Probable Angina Pectoris	Nonanginal Chest Pain
< 20	Men	Intermediate	Intermediate	Low
≤ 39	Women	Intermediate	Very low	Very low
40 40	Men	High	Intermediate	Intermediate
40 – 49	Women	Intermediate	Low	Very low
FO FO	Men	High	Intermediate	Intermediate
50 – 59	Women	Intermediate	Intermediate	Low
> 60	Men	High	Intermediate	Intermediate
≥ 60	Women	High	Intermediate	Intermediate

- Very low: < 5% pretest probability of CAD, usually not requiring stress evaluation²²
- Low: 5 10% pretest probability of CAD
- Intermediate: 10% 90% pretest probability of CAD
- High: > 90% pretest probability of CA

For additional information on stress imaging, please refer to NIA guideline CG 024 Myocardial Perfusion Imaging (aka Nuclear Cardiac Imaging Study).



Abbreviations

ARVD/C Arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia/cardiomyopathy

ASD Atrial septal defect

CABG Coronary artery bypass grafting surgery

CAD Coronary artery disease

CMR Cardiac magnetic resonance (imaging)

CT Computed tomography
ECG Electrocardiogram
EF Ejection fraction

HCM Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

ICD Implantable cardioverter-defibrillator

LAA Left atrial appendage

LBBB Left bundle-branch block

LGE Late gadolinium enhancement

LV Left ventricle

LVH Left ventricular hypertrophy LVOT Left ventricular outflow

MPI Myocardial perfusion imaging

MR Mitral regurgitation

MR(I) Magnetic resonance (imaging)

PA Pulmonary artery

PET Positron emission tomography

PFO Patent foramen ovale
PS Pulmonary stenosis
RV Right ventricle

SCD Sudden cardiac death
SE Stress echocardiography
SRT Septal reduction therapy

TAVR Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement

TTE Transthoracic Echo
TEE Transesophageal Echo
VT Ventricular tachycardia

POLICY HISTORY

Date	Summary
February 2023	Added statement on clinical indications not addressed in this guideline ————————————————————————————————————





February 2022	Deleted the statement of deferral toward a stress echo, leaving
T COTUATY 2022	the equivalency statement toward MPI
	Clarified the requirement for description of chest pain by
	adding sentence "The medical record should provide enough
	detail to establish the type of chest pain."
	Changed postoperative routine surveillance for single-ventricle
	heart disease to 1 – 2 years in an asymptomatic patient
March 2021	 Added expanded guidelines for HCM with new reference
March 2020	Added general information section as Introduction which
	outlines requirements for documentation of pertinent office
	notes by a licensed clinician, and inclusion of laboratory testing
	and relevant imaging results for case review.
	 Added the following to the section Cardiomyopathy & Heart
	Failure:
	 Edited indication to assess systolic and diastolic function
	in the evaluation of a newly diagnosed cardiomyopathy
	 Added the following to suspected infiltrative disease
	such as amyloidosis, sarcoidosis, hemochromatosis, or
	endomyocardial fibrosis: if PET has not been performed
	 Added suspected inherited or acquired cardiomyopathy
	 Added evaluation after appropriate time interval
	following revascularization and/or optimal medical
	therapy to determine candidacy for ICD/CRT and/or to
	determine optimal choice of device
	 Added clinical symptoms and signs consistent with a
	cardiac diagnosis known to cause presyncope/syncope
	(including but not limited to hypertrophic
	cardiomyopathy)
	Added pulmonary hypertension in the absence of severe
	valvular disease
	Added the following indications to the section Evaluation of
	Intra- and Extra- Cardiac Structures
	 Initial evaluation of cardiac mass, suspected tumor or
	thrombus or potential cardiac source of emboli
	Re evaluation of intracardiac mass when findings would
	change therapy
	 Added the following to identification and characteristics
	of coronary aneurysm: or anomalous coronary arteries
	Added section on Pre-Procedure Evaluation for Closure of ASD
	or PFO including the following indications:



 For assessment of atrial septal anatomy and atrianeurysm For assessment of suitability for percutaneous declosure Added section on Assessment Following LAA Occlusion including the following indications: For surveillance at 45 days or FDA guidance, if TE Heart CT not done, to assess for:	evice EE or Imonary on: if
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bicuspid AV and an ascending aortic diameter >4	
with 1 of the following:	
◆ Aortic diameter >4.5 cm	
Rapid rate of change in aortic diameter	
- Family history (first-degree relative) of ac	ortic
dissection	
 Added the following to the indication of evaluation 	on in
patients with known or suspected connective tis	
disease or genetic conditions that predispose to	aortic
aneurysm or dissection (can be done more frequ	
>4.5 cm or rate of growth > 0.5 cm/year: up to to	wice per
year)	
 Extensive update to the indications for Congenital Heart 	ŧ
Disease to include the following:	
→ For all indications noted, either CT or CMR can b	e done
 All lesions: evaluation prior to planned repair an 	d
evaluation for change in clinical status and/or no	;₩
concerning signs or symptoms	
→ Specific indications based on lesion were added-	
interval and criteria for repeat imaging included	
→ Added indication for coronary anomalies	
Updated and added new references	
July 2019 ● Removed table of comparison to Cardiac CT	
 Removed global risk calculator for asymptomatic patien 	ts



Heart MRI

- Removed scenarios for which approval of CMR is not approvable as well as follow up indications
- Removed section on MRI compatibility with Pacemakers
- Format change: moved CAD section clarification of indication of use of MRI in CAD and removed detailed indications
- Expanded aortic screening section with removal of chart for "normal" sizes of aortic aneurysm
- Expanded indication for prosthetic heart valves
- Removed indication of screening with a strong family history of cardiomyopathy

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POLICY HISTORY

<u>Date</u>	Summary
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<u>April 2023</u>	Added statement on clinical indications not addressed in this
	<u>guideline</u>
	 Added Washington State Legislative Language
February 2022	 Deleted the statement of deferral toward a stress echo, leaving the
	equivalency statement toward MPI
	 Clarified the requirement for description of chest pain by adding
	sentence "The medical record should provide enough detail to
	establish the type of chest pain."
	 Changed postoperative routine surveillance for single-ventricle
	heart disease to 1 – 2 years in an asymptomatic patient

Reviewed / Approved by NIA Clinical Guideline Committee

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