

2010 Reimbursement Update for Echocardiography

December 1, 2009

2010 Medicare Hospital Outpatients

For procedures in the hospital outpatient setting Medicare has packaged the payment for echocardiography contrast agents into the payment for the echocardiography procedure.

Medicare published a list of "C" codes hospitals must report in order to be reimbursed for the combination of the contrast agent and the echocardiography procedure.

Example: for **Medicare hospital outpatients**: echocardiography; transthoracic complete with Doppler and color flow:

			<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Rest echo with contrast	HCPCS	C8929	\$651.17 ¹	\$566.16 ²
Rest echo without contrast	CPT®	93306	\$450.97 ³	\$431.37 ⁴

The \$200.20 higher payment for C8929 rest echo with contrast compared to 93306 rest echo without contrast is to reimburse hospitals the cost of the contrast agent and the cost of infusing the contrast agent.

The 2010 Medicare Final Rule with a complete list of payment amounts can be found on the CMS website at:

www.federalregister.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2009-26499_PI.pdf

If you have questions regarding reimbursement for Lantheus Medical Imaging products, call Randy VanCoughnett at 978-436-7995 or email randy.vancoughnett@lantheus.com.

Lantheus Medical Imaging, Inc. cannot guarantee coverage or payment for products or procedures. Payer policies can vary widely. For more specific information contact the payer directly in order to obtain up to date coverage, coding and payment information.

1. www.federalregister.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2009-26499_PI.pdf page 1712
2. 69177 Federal Register / Vol. 73, No. 223 / Tuesday, November 18, 2008
3. www.federalregister.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2009-26499_PI.pdf page 1664
4. 69142 Federal Register / Vol. 73, No. 223 / Tuesday, November 18, 2008