

From: Elias_Maria
To: ["kpetrides@consultpmsco.com"](mailto:kpetrides@consultpmsco.com)
Cc: Elias_Maria
Subject: PaACC Comments on IBC Medical Policy
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2009 2:25:21 PM

Kim,

Below are comments from Dr. David Scher representing the PA Chapter of the American College of Cardiology. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Maria Elias
Chapter Executive
PA Chapter, American College of Cardiology

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Title: Cardiac Event Detection Monitoring (External Loop Monitoring)
Policy #: 07.02.12c

From: dlsmd@comcast.net [mailto:dlsmd@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2009 9:40 AM
To: Elias, Maria
Subject: Re: Your Opportunity for IBC Medical Policy Review

This proposal is fine for this technology. However this technology is no longer adequate for long term arrhythmia or risk of arrhythmia monitoring. It has been supplanted by outpatient cardiac telemetry (COMT) which has the advantage over the event recorder technology inasmuch as it doesn't need to be patient activated and the information is not looped. The patient's rhythm is monitored every beat as if the pt was in the hospital and arrhythmias whether symptomatic or not are observed and the physician notified 24/7.

In addition, if this type of technology is not revealing in 30 days of monitoring, there are implantable recorders that are implanted as an outpatient procedure under the patient's skin and transmit via satellite as COMT does, in a 24/7 fashion rhythms, and both symptomatic and asymptomatic observations that are significant are conveyed to the physician. Both of these other technologies sorely need policies. I urge the carrier(s) to get on this ASAP. The external loop recorder technology is not standard of care anymore for cardiologists in this community, and even primary care physicians have been using COMT over external loop recorders. Hope this has been useful, Kim. Let me know if i can help in any other way.