

Medicare

Fast Facts 2021 Medicare Changes for Holter

New Holter services are here	Extended wear Holter (EWH) with monitoring lengths of 3-7 days and 8+ days are covered by Medicare as of January 2021.
Extended wear Holter coverage remains in the hands of local Medicare contractors	EWH has a mix of national and carrier pricing and vary by location.
Will all commercial payors cover the new services?	Commercial payors have yet to announce their plans. Not all payors recognize EWH or may require pre-authorization these services. BioTel Heart has over 650 payor contracts, many covering extended wear Holter, which means that fewer patients end up with unexpected, out-of-network payments.
Non-physician providers would be able to supervise diagnostic testing	CCNM, CNS, NP, and PA, along with CRNA, are able to supervise and bill for diagnostic test services, including EWH when this work complies with their state licensing.
BioTel Heart is a full-service provider	Our platform combines ambulatory ECG testing via traditional and extended Holter, Event monitoring and MCT combined with cardiac device management for your ILR and pacemaker and ICD patients.
Offers three billing models	With the ePatch™ EWH monitor from BioTel Heart®, customers can choose split fee or fee for service billing, or as a direct purchase model.
No need for the patient to return the Holter to your office	BioTel Heart's ePatch can be returned for scanning using the return mailers, eliminating the need for your staff to handle, disinfect and process the hardware.
Office upload of the Holter data is also available	If you're looking for faster access to the data, BioTelemetry also gives you the ability to upload data directly from your office to our secure clinical processing center.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the 2021 Holter categories and codes?

As of January 1, 2021, Holter services are categorized by length of monitoring

Codes: 1-2 days [‡]	Codes: 3-7 days [‡]	Codes: 8+ days [‡]
<p>93224 Heart rhythm tracing, analysis, and interpretation of 48-hour EKG, includes recording, scanning analysis with report</p> <p>93225 Heart rhythm tracing of 48-hour EKG</p> <p>93226 Heart rhythm analysis, interpretation and report of 48-hour EKG</p> <p>93227 Heart rhythm tracing, analysis, and interpretation of 48-hour EKG</p>	<p>93241 External electrocardiographic recording for more than 48 hours up to 7 days by continuous rhythm recording and storage; includes recording, scanning analysis with report, review and interpretation</p> <p>93242 External electrocardiographic recording for more than 48 hours up to 7 days by continuous rhythm recording and storage; recording (includes connection and initial recording)</p> <p>93243 External electrocardiographic recording for more than 48 hours up to 7 days by continuous rhythm recording and storage; scanning analysis with report</p> <p>93244 External electrocardiographic recording for more than 48 hours up to 7 days by continuous rhythm recording and storage; review and interpretation</p>	<p>93245 External electrocardiographic recording for more than 7 days up to 15 days by continuous rhythm recording and storage; includes recording, scanning analysis with report, review and interpretation</p> <p>93246 External electrocardiographic recording for more than 7 days up to 15 days by continuous rhythm recording and storage; recording (includes connection and initial recording)</p> <p>93247 External electrocardiographic recording for more than 7 days up to 15 days by continuous rhythm recording and storage; scanning analysis with report</p> <p>93248 External electrocardiographic recording for more than 7 days up to 15 days by continuous rhythm recording and storage; review and interpretation</p>

BioTel Heart offers diagnostic services that meet the new coding requirements for the new categories.

Which Medicare payment systems cover Holter services?

Holter is covered by both the Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) and the Hospital Outpatient Payment System (OPPS). PFS pays for office-based costs of testing, while OPPS pays for the hospital costs of outpatient testing. Physician work is billed to the PFS in either scenario.

CPT	Short Description	PFS 2021			OPPS 2021		
		Work RVU	Total Non-Facility RVU	Non-Facility Avg	APC	Relative Weight	OPPS National
93224	Ecg monit/reprt up to 48 hrs (global)	0.39	2.4	\$83.74			
93225	Connection and initial recording		0.61	\$21.28	5734	1.3521	\$111.95
93226	Scanning analysis with report		1.24	\$43.27	5734	1.3521	\$111.95
93227	Review and interpretation	0.39	0.55	\$19.19			
93241	Ecg monit/reprt up to 48 hr – 7d (global)			CP			
93242	Connection and initial recording		0.45	\$15.70	5732	0.4087	\$33.84
93243	Scanning analysis with report			CP	5733	0.6722	\$55.66
93244	Review and interpretation	0.5	0.72	\$25.12			
93245	Ecg monit/reprt 8+ (global)			CP			
93246	Connection and initial recording		0.45	\$15.70	5733	0.6722	\$55.66
93247	Scanning analysis with report			CP	5734	1.3521	\$111.95
93248	Review and interpretation	0.55	0.79	\$27.57			

Sources: [CMS-1734-F, Medicare Physician Fee Schedule for CY 2021](#), [CMS-1736-FC, Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment NFRM](#)

CP = Carrier Price; CPT codes are the copyright of the American Medical Association (AMA).

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