



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
HEALTH AFFAIRS

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TRICARE
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

MB&RB

CHANGE 82
6010.54-M
JULY 22, 2008

PUBLICATIONS SYSTEM CHANGE TRANSMITTAL
FOR
TRICARE POLICY MANUAL (TPM)

The TRICARE Management Activity has authorized the following addition(s)/
revision(s) to the 6010.54-M, issued August 2002.

CHANGE TITLE: EVOLVING PRACTICE CHANGE 2008

PAGE CHANGE(S): See page 2.

SUMMARY OF CHANGE(S): This change is a correction to Aug 2002 TPM,
Change No. 79, dated June 19, 2008.

EFFECTIVE DATE: As posted on the issuance.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Upon direction of the Contracting Officer.

Reta Michak
Chief, Office of Medical Benefits
and Reimbursement Branch

ATTACHMENT(S): 1 PAGE(S)
DISTRIBUTION: 6010.54-M

CHANGE 82
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CHAPTER 4

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DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

ISSUE DATE: August 26, 1985

AUTHORITY: [32 CFR 199.4\(c\)\(2\)](#) and [\(c\)\(3\)](#)

I. CPT¹ PROCEDURE CODES

40490 - 40831, 40899 - 43644, 43651 - 43761, 43800, 43810, 43820, 43842, 43846 43848, 43880, 43999, 44005 - 47362, 47371, 47379, 47381, 47399 - 49999, 91123, 96570, 96571

II. DESCRIPTION

The digestive system involves the organs associated with the ingestion, digestion, and absorption of nutrients, and the elimination of solid waste.

III. POLICY

Services and supplies required in the diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury involving the digestive system are covered.

IV. EXCLUSIONS

A. Vestibuloplasty except for adjunctive care (CPT¹ procedure code range 40840-40845).

B. Percutaneous interstitial thermal ablation in the treatment of hepatic cancer is unproven.

C. The Stretta System (Curon Medical, Sunnyvale, CA) and Bard Endoscopic Suturing System for the treatment of refractory **gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD)** is unproven (CPT¹ procedure codes 43201 and 43257).

D. For bariatric procedures, see [Section 13.2](#).

- END -

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