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RE: Interventional Cardiology Taxonomy Code

To Whom It May Concern:

The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI) has dedicated its work to advancing the profession and is the designated society for guidance, representation, professional recognition, education, and research opportunities for invasive and interventional cardiology professionals. For more than 40 years, SCAI has personified professional excellence and innovation globally, fostering a trusted community of more than 5000 members dedicated to medical advancement and lifesaving care for adults and children with cardiovascular disease.

It has come to our attention that some facilities and health plans are not recognizing the interventional cardiology taxonomy code that differentiates subspecialists from general cardiologists. This distinction is established in the National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC) Health Care Provider Taxonomy Code Set (taxonomy code 207RI0011X) used in the assignment of National Provider Identifier (NPI) numbers. In addition, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has recognized interventional cardiology with a distinct specialty code (C3) since 2015.

Recognizing this taxonomy distinction is essential to ensure accurate credentialing and appropriate reimbursement for interventional cardiology services. It also supports proper specialist attribution in value-based care programs (including the Ambulatory Specialty Model) and improves the integrity of claims data used for quality measurement, network adequacy, and utilization analyses. When interventional cardiologists are misclassified as general cardiologists, claims may be processed incorrectly and performance and cost metrics may be attributed to the wrong specialty, creating avoidable administrative burden for clinicians and payers.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that your organization (1) update internal provider directories and claims-processing systems to recognize the interventional cardiology taxonomy code and corresponding CMS specialty designation, (2) apply the correct taxonomy to credentialing and enrollment records, and (3) reprocess or correct impacted claims and attribution determinations when a provider's interventional cardiology taxonomy is on file. Implementing these steps will promote consistent, transparent administration and help ensure patients receive care that is accurately reflected in coverage and reporting systems.

SCAI looks forward to continuing to be a resource on these important issues. If SCAI can be of any assistance as your organization continues to consider and review these issues, please do not hesitate to contact SCAI's director, regulatory affairs Monica Wright at 202-327-5451 or at mlwright@scai.org if there are any questions or further requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Arnold Seto". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light gray rectangular background.

Arnold Seto, MD, MPA, FSCAI
Chair
Advocacy Committee