

Reimbursement Information

Courtesy of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)

This list is not all inclusive. You should confer with your coding professional before submitting a claim if there is any question regarding the accuracy of the procedural or diagnostic code.

1. Medicare/Medicaid Statements related to reimbursement for Ototoxicity Monitoring

See http://www.empiremedicare.com/Newypolicy/policy/AU001G_FINAL.htm where Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield (the New York Medicare carrier) writes the following as indication for audiologic testing: "Audiologic testing (CPT codes 92553, 92557, 92568, 92569) may be performed for patients on continuing (current) long-term (more than 14 days) use of antibiotics known to be ototoxic, such as streptomycin and aminoglycosides."

2. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes for third party payer reimbursement requests

Extended High Frequency Audiometry. No code exists for extended high frequency audiometry. You can consider using 92552-22 for extended pure tone audiometry. The modifier -22 is used "...when the service provided is greater than that usually required for the listed procedure.... A report may also be appropriate." Payers do not like to the modifier used to frequently. They believe there should be another CPT code if the current one is not satisfactory.

Otoacoustic emission comprehensive or diagnostic evaluation. Use code 92588 (comparison of transient and distortion product otoacoustic emissions at multiple levels and frequencies).

3. International Classification of Diseases-9th Edition-Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) codes for third party payer reimbursement requests

- Amikacin 960.6
- Cisplatin 963.1
- Carboplatin 963.1
- Gentamicin 960.8
- Furosemide 974.4
- High Risk Medications V67.51
- Oxaliplatin 960.7
- Streptomycin 960.6

The 960 series is in the Injury and Poisoning Chapter (800-999) and refers to Poisoning by antibiotics. The code 960.6 is for Antimycobacterial antibiotics and the following four drugs are listed: Cycloserine, Kanamycin, Rifampin and

Streptomycin. The code 960.8 is for “Other specified antibiotics.” The 963 series refers to Poisoning by primary systemic agents. Code 963.1 is for Antineoplastic and immunosuppressive drugs including Asathioprine, Busulfan, Chlorambucil, Cyclophosphamide, Cytarabine, Fluorouracil, Mercaptopurine, and thio-TEPA. It excludes antineoplastic antibiotics (960.7). The 974 series is for Poisoning by water, mineral, and uric acid metabolism drugs and includes 974.4 Other diuretics Ethacrynic acid and Furosemide.

4. ICD-9-CM Codes for Sensorineural Hearing Loss

Section 389 of the Nervous System and Sense Organs chapter includes 389.1 Sensorineural hearing loss. It includes:

- 389.10 Sensorineural hearing loss, unspecified
- 389.11 Sensory hearing loss
- 389.12 Neural hearing loss
- 389.14 Central hearing loss
- 389.18 Sensorineural hearing loss of combined types

5. ICD-9-CM codes for Vestibular System Dysfunction:

- 386.1 Other and unspecified peripheral vertigo
 - 386.10 Peripheral vertigo, unspecified
- 386.3 Labyrinthitis
 - 386.34 Toxic labyrinthitis
- 386.5 Labyrinthine dysfunction
 - 386.50 Labyrinthine dysfunction, unspecified
 - 386.51 Hyperactive labyrinth, unilateral
 - 386.52 Hyperactive labyrinth, bilateral
 - 386.53 Hypoactive labyrinth, unilateral
 - 386.54 Hypoactive labyrinth, bilateral
 - 386.55 Loss of labyrinthine reactivity, unilateral
 - 386.56 Loss of labyrinthine reactivity, bilateral
 - 386.58 Other forms and combinations
- 386.8 Other disorders of labyrinth
- 386.9 Unspecified vertiginous syndromes and labyrinthine disorders
- 794.16 Abnormal vestibular function studies

6. ICD-9-CM codes for Tinnitus:

- 388.3 Tinnitus
 - 388.30 Tinnitus, unspecified
 - 388.31 Subjective tinnitus
 - 388.32 Objective tinnitus