

**Managed Care Operations Memorandum
Technology Assessment Group
MCOPS Memo # 06/2019-009**

Date: June 4, 2019

Subject: Technology Assessment Group (TAG) Coverage Decisions

To: HealthChoices MCOs

From: Laurie Rock, Director, Bureau of Managed Care Operations

Purpose:

To provide MCOs coverage updates regarding new technologies as discussed in regular TAG meetings.

Background:

The TAG workgroup meets quarterly on the 1st Wednesday of February, May, August and November to discuss issues and evidence-based research pertaining to revolving new technologies and previously reviewed technologies or services that were determined to be covered only through a program exception request. During the TAG meetings, decisions are made as to whether or not certain technologies or services will be covered under the MA Program and the option under which it will be covered. TAG's coverage options are as follows:

- **Option # 1:** Approved- will be added to the Fee Schedule
- **Option # 2:** Approved as Medically Effective under specific clinical condition- will require Program Exception
- **Option # 3:** Approved with (or denied due to) Limited/Minimal Evidence of Effectiveness- will require Program Exception
- **Option # 4:** Denied- Experimental/Investigational

Discussion:

Below are the updated list of services and corresponding procedure codes/descriptions discussed at the May 1, 2019, TAG Meeting and the MA coverage decisions that were made:

HCPCS/CPT Code	Description	Decision
33340	The Watchman Left Atrial Appendage Closure (LAAC) Device is a catheter-delivered heart implant designed to close the left atrial appendage, a major source of clots in patients suffering from atrial fibrillation.	Option # 3. The decision of option # 3 is only for the Watchman LAAC Device and does not impact the other LAAC devices that can be billed under CPT code 33340.
E0486	Oral Device/Appliance used to reduce upper airway collapsibility especially in Obstructive Sleep Apnea patients	Option # 2

This memo is not intended to replace any existing Prior Authorization Review Processes currently being utilized; it is for informational/internal purposes only.

Next Steps:

N/A

Obsolete:

N/A

Attachment:

N/A