



3M™ Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Grouping (EAPG) System

Summary of Changes

Version 3.18 January 1, 2023

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Summary of changes for 3M™ Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Grouping (EAPG) System

For licensees of the 3M™ Enhanced Ambulatory Patient Grouping (EAPG) System, this document identifies changes for version 3.18, effective January 1, 2023.

The EAPG grouper EAPG version 3.18 contains versions 3.12 through 3.18; seven years' worth of grouper versions are retained (2016 through 2023). Additionally, grouper versions 3.10 and 3.11 remain in the grouper for historical claims processing, but do not receive code updates.

Each year, 3M revises the EAPG patient classification logic for two reasons:

1. To accommodate changes in health care code sets, most importantly the International Classification of Diseases, Version 10, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM), the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®), and the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) usually does an annual update to the ICD-10-CM code set each October 1 and April 1. The American Medical Association makes its major update to the CPT code set each January 1 and makes some additional updates quarterly. DHHS updates the HCPCS code set quarterly. 3M releases quarterly updates of the EAPG grouper to reflect code set updates made during the year.
2. 3M continually performs research to enhance the clinical precision of the EAPG logic, that is, how patients are classified into one or more EAPGs per ambulatory care visit. These enhancements are implemented each year with the January 1 release.

As shown in Table 1, between October 1, 2021, and January 1, 2023, there is a net increase of 891 ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes, or 2.27%. Table 2 shows a net increase of 360 CPT®/HCPCS codes or 2.18%.

Table 1. Comparison of ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes

	Effective 10/01/2021	Effective 01/01/2023
Total ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes	72,748	73,639
Number of new diagnosis codes	159	1,179
Number of deleted diagnosis codes	32	288
Number of revised diagnosis codes	22	28
Note: The rows for total, new, deleted, and revised compare the October 2021 to January 2023 counts.		

Table 2. Updates to CPT® and HCPCS procedure codes

	Effective 01/01/2022	Effective 01/01/2023
Total CPT®/HCPCS codes	17,936	18,296
Number of new CPT/HCPCS procedure codes combined	322	453
Number of deleted CPT/HCPCS procedure codes combined	112	93
Note: Totals for CPT and HCPCS codes include the April, July, and October 2022, and approximate counts for January 2023 code updates. The rows for total, new, deleted and revised compare the January 2022 to approximate January 2023 counts.		

In addition to changes to reflect modifications in the national diagnosis and procedure code sets, 3M is making several enhancements to the clinical logic. In updating the clinical logic, changes have been made to improve the precision of the clinical logic by considering customer recommendations, shifts in coding, changes in practice, and economic cost shifts.

As coding systems are revised, and new technology and advances in medicine occur, the need for new EAPG groups, as well as code assignment changes to EAPG groups, are reviewed and evaluated each year. New EAPG groups may be added, and obsolete groups may be deleted. Some procedural EAPG groups have no procedure codes assigned (EAPG 409, 4001), however, the groups are maintained for future use. Modifications occur due to code assignment changes, and groups are reviewed for clinical homogeneity across current industry trends, claim reporting frequency and reimbursement. A comparison table of the EAPG changes between versions 3.17 and 3.18 is provided in Table 3.

Table 3. Comparison of EAPG v3.17 and v3.18

	v3.17 effective 01/01/2022	v3.18 effective 01/01/2023
Number of EAPGs	657	666
Number of new EAPGs	15	9
Number of deleted EAPGs	6	0
Number of revised EAPGs	34	26
Number of EAPG types	13	13
Number of EAPG categories	61	61
Number of hospital service lines	50	52

Highlights of the changes made to the EAPG grouper field and logic changes are listed in the sections that follow. More detailed information about clinical changes made to EAPGs is provided later in this document.

EAPG grouper field and logic changes

New input fields

None

New output fields

None

Logic changes

Updated logic for EAPG 999 (Unassigned)

With the release of version 3.18 (effective 1/1/2023), if EAPG 999 is assigned, the packaging flag and any other line-item grouping output flags are cleared out and the line item is unassigned. The following fields: EAPG, EAPG Type, and EAPG Category, reflect unassigned values. The list of Line-Item Unassigned Flag values are noted below.

- 0 - Line item assigned
- 1 - User Ignored (Line Action flag)
- 2 - Inpatient Procedure
- 3 - Invalid Procedure Code
- 4 - Not used by APGs
- 5 - Invalid Dx for Medical visit
- 6 - External cause of injury Dx not appropriate for medical visit assignment
- 7 - Non-covered care or settings
- 8 - Invalid Date can't be used (invalid or out of range)
- 9 - Invalid procedure, cannot be blank
- 10 - Per Diem HCPCS without qualifying dx
- 11 - Observation Condition error
- 12 - DAO Condition error
- 13 - Gender unknown or invalid for medical gender specific APG assignment
- 14 - Home Management
- 15 - User option for Direct PD assignment Off
- 16 - EAPG assignment condition not met
- 17 - Never Event modifier present
- 18 - Observation hours condition error
- 19 - Patient Age condition error
- 20 - Add-on code assignment to inpatient
- 21 - Incorrect or invalid Diagnosis Pointer for multiple medical visit option

- 22 - Incorrect or invalid Linked Diagnosis for multiple medical visit option
- 23 - Revenue code only line
- 24 - HCPCS code reported is prior to or after policy coverage dates
- 25 - Procedure for Alternate Payment
- 26 - HCPCS or EAPG not significant procedure type cannot be added to user-defined inpatient only list

Summary of clinical refinements to the EAPG grouper

A summary of changes to the EAPG grouper under version 3.18 is provided below; additional detail is provided under subsequent sections. For detailed lists of these changes, see the attached Annual Summary of Changes spreadsheet.

- Updates to drugs, laboratory, and pathology groups to account for cost, complexity, and current fee schedule and other payment source trends (e.g., CMS APC payment rates)
- Clinical consolidation relationship changes (32 consolidation pairs were added and 12 were deleted) to improve the efficiency of outpatient grouping based on observations in current outpatient claims data for claims with multiple significant procedures present
- Creation of nine New EAPG groups
- There were no EAPGs deleted for version 3.18
- Three EAPG groups had a type change, two of which were changed to incidental type (EAPGs 307 and 455)
- Nine EAPGs had a category change assignment and one EAPG had a category description change (Category 6)
- There were four EAPGs added to the standard packaging list and two EAPGs were removed
- Changes were made to service lines for several EAPGs, and two new service lines were added
- Preventive Diabetes: additional services flagged to identify as preventive services for diabetic patients

Additional clinical refinements were made to the following categories of EAPGs for improved clinical precision and to reflect currently observed outpatient claims reporting practices. The following list represents some of the more significant changes.

- Incidental Biological and Synthetic Application products: EAPG 455 and new EAPG 2010
- Allergy Tests: EAPGs 116 and new EAPG 2016
- Cardiac Electrophysiologic procedures: EAPGs 82 and 96
- Dental Procedures: EAPGs 350-366, 373-374, 379-382
- Home Health: new EAPGs 2009, 2050, 2051
- Patient Education and Ambulatory Monitoring: review of EAPGs 418 and 428

- Monthly Case and Treatment Management: new EAPGs 2070 and 2071 for monthly Case Management and Behavioral Health Case Management; new EAPG 2072 for monthly treatment management
- Unassigned HCPCS (EAPG 999) codes have been assigned to EAPG groups. Note that if EAPG 999 is returned under version 3.18, it is only associated with an error condition.

The net effect of these changes is a more clinically precise and accurate assignment of EAPG groups aligned with current clinical practice, costs, and trends. Details describing these clinical changes may be found in subsequent sections of this document.

EAPG changes

For EAPG 3.18 there are nine new EAPGs, there are no deleted EAPGs, and 26 revised EAPGs (descriptions, type, category, service lines). Note that any references to the outpatient claims data set in the details substantiating changes in assignment of codes or the development of new EAPGs is associated with the review of source claims from the previous CMS OPPS CY 2020 data set containing 90 million claims, and the new CMS CY2021 data set, which contains a total of 106 million claims. For additional details related to the claims data set and usage for creation of relative weights, please see the Relative Weights section of this document (page [39](#)).

Table 4. New EAPGs

EAPG	EAPG Description	EAPG Type
900	AUTOPSY AND POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION SERVICES	4
2009	INCIDENTAL HOME HEALTH, RESIDENTIAL AND OTHER RELATED SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	5
2010	INCIDENTAL SKIN SUBSTITUTES	5
2016	LEVEL II ALLERGY TESTS	4
2050	HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL HOME HEALTH SERVICES	4
2051	OTHER ANCILLARY HOME HEALTH SERVICES	4
2070	MONTHLY CARE AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES	4
2071	MONTHLY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES	4
2072	MONTHLY TREATMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES	4

Table 5. Revised EAPG descriptions

EAPG	EAPG Description
82	COMPREHENSIVE CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGIC PROCEDURES WITH ABLATION
96	CARDIAC ELECTROPHYSIOLOGIC PROCEDURES INCLUDING PACING AND RECORDING
116	LEVEL I ALLERGY TESTS
261	ESRD MONTHLY CASE MANAGEMENT
455	INCIDENTAL BIOLOGICAL AND SYNTHETIC APPLICATION PRODUCT
3050	OTHER TRANSPLANT PROCEDURES

EAPG category changes

Due to a clinical review of either the new or existing EAPG groups, no new EAPG categories are added, no EAPG categories are deleted, nine EAPGs have a category change and one EAPG (category 6) has a revised description to improve classification to the type of services assigned in each respective EAPG group.

Table 6. Revised EAPG categories

EAPG Category	EAPG Category Description v3.18	Previous Category Description v3.17
6	Hematologic and lymphatic procedures	Hematologic, lymphatic and endocrine procedures

Table 7. Current EAPG groups with changes in EAPG Category assignment for v3.18

EAPG	EAPG Description	EAPG v3.17 Category	EAPG v3.18 Category
94	CARDIAC REHABILITATION	5-Cardiovascular procedures	14-Rehabilitation
118	NUTRITION THERAPY	6-Hematologic, lymphatic, and endocrine procedures	14-Rehabilitation
286	MAMMOGRAPHY AND OTHER RELATED PROCEDURES	15-Radiologic procedures	25-Radiology

EAPG	EAPG Description	EAPG v3.17 Category	EAPG v3.18 Category
288	LEVEL I DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASOUND	15-Radiologic procedures	25-Radiology
289	LEVEL II DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASOUND	15-Radiologic procedures	25-Radiology
291	BONE DENSITY AND RELATED PROCEDURES	15-Radiologic procedures	25-Radiology
301	COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY- OTHER	15-Radiologic procedures	25-Radiology
455	INCIDENTAL BIOLOGICAL AND SYNTHETIC APPLICATION PRODUCTS	34-DME, Ambulance Services and Medical Supplies	30-Incidental procedures and services
2044	LEVEL IV COMPLEX LABORATORY, MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY AND GENETIC TESTS	21-Pathology	22-Laboratory

EAPG Service Line changes

Each year, EAPG Service Lines are reviewed in accordance with the outpatient setting as well as compared to the APR DRG inpatient service line assignments for consistency, if clinically appropriate. Changes were made to service lines for version 3.18, and are reflected in the following table. These changes may also be found in the attached Annual Summary of changes on two tabs: EAPG_LIST_SERVICE_LINE_A_D and EAPG_LIST_SERVICE_LINE_MOD (page [59](#)).

Table 8. Changes to Service Lines for EAPGs v3.18

EAPG	EAPG Description	Service Line v3.18	Service Line v3.18 Description	Service Line v3.17	Service Line v3.17 Description
118	NUTRITION THERAPY	3	Rehabilitation	54	Ancillary Services

Table 9. New EAPG groups with Service Line assignments under v3.18

EAPG	EAPG Description	Service Line v3.18	Service Line v3.18 Description
900	AUTOPSY AND POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION SERVICES	32	Pathology
2009	INCIDENTAL HOME HEALTH, RESIDENTIAL AND OTHER RELATED SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	9	General Medicine
2010	INCIDENTAL SKIN SUBSTITUTES	54	Ancillary Services
2016	LEVEL II ALLERGY TESTS	54	Ancillary Services
2050	HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL HOME HEALTH SERVICES	9	General Medicine
2051	OTHER ANCILLARY HOME HEALTH SERVICES	9	General Medicine
2070	MONTHLY CARE AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES	54	Ancillary Services
2071	MONTHLY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES	25	Behavioral Health
2072	MONTHLY TREATMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES	54	Ancillary Services

EAPG type and changes to type assignment

EAPG types represent a categorical classification by type of service. The following table lists the breakout of EAPG types and the number of encounters for each type appearing in the claims data set.

Table 10. Frequency by EAPG type

EAPG Type Description	Frequency	% Total
01-Per Diem	25,218	0.01%
02-Significant Procedure	4,634,073	0.97%
03-Medical Visit	35,094,550	7.31%
04-Ancillary	312,957,278	65.19%
05-Incidental	18,363,944	3.83%
06-Drug	55,440,539	11.55%
07-DME	8,068,603	1.68%
21-Physical Therapy & Rehab	3,907,587	0.81%

EAPG Type Description	Frequency	% Total
22-Behavioral Health & Counseling	1,132,150	0.24%
23-Dental or Oral Surgery Procs	14,447	0.00%
24-Radiologic Procedure	17,679,653	3.68%
25-Diagnostic or Therapeutic Proc	22,755,736	4.74%
Total Encounters	480,073,778	

Each year, the claims data set is reviewed to understand the relationship between major significant procedure visits and medical visits to the additional diagnostic, therapeutic or ancillary services reported with these events that may be supportive or adjunctive to the major events. As a result of that review, changes to EAPG types may occur. For version 3.18, there are three EAPGs having a type change, two of which are changing from type 5 (Incidental) to type 4 (Ancillary) and type 7 (DME) and one changing from type 2 (Significant) to type 25 (Diagnostic or Therapeutic procedure).

The complete list of EAPGs with type changes can be found on the tab labeled EAPG_LIST_TYPE_MOD in the attached Annual Summary of Changes spreadsheet (page 59), and noted in the following table, which also includes observed frequency in the claims data set, and if the EAPG was added to the standard packaging list.

Table 11. EAPG groups with type changes in v3.18

EAPG	v3.17 Type	v3.18 Type	v3.18 Visit Counts	EAPG v3.18 Description	Service Line	Packaging List
51	2	25	33,422	MUSCULOSKELETAL EXCISIONS, BIOPSIES, AND DRAINAGE PROCEDURES	3 – Orthopedic Surgery	No
307	4	5	332	INSERTION OR REMOVAL OF DRUG DELIVERY DEVICE	2 – General Surgery	No
455	7	5	17,092	INCIDENTAL BIOLOGICAL AND SYNTHETIC APPLICATION PRODUCTS	35 – DME and Supplies	No