

PHYSICIAN BILLING GUIDE 2021



The remedē[®] System Physician Billing Guide

This guide contains physician and hospital coding and reimbursement information for procedures associated with the **remedē** System to treat moderate to severe central sleep apnea. For more information on hospital billing, the 2021 **remedē** System Hospital Billing Guide is available online at www.respicardia.com or by contacting the Respicardia Reimbursement Hotline.

Disclaimer: The information provided in this guide is general reimbursement information only; it is not legal advice, nor is it advice about how to code, complete or submit any claim for payment, nor is it intended to increase or maximize reimbursement by any third-party payer. All coding and reimbursement information is subject to change without notice. The content provided by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services is updated frequently. It is the responsibility of the health services provider to confirm the appropriate coding required by their local Medicare carriers, fiscal intermediaries, and commercial payers.

Respicardia provides reimbursement case management and hotline services in order to support patient access to the **remedē** System therapy. We provide hands-on assistance with prior authorizations and appeals through our **remedē** Patient Access Program. We also provide reimbursement support of billing, coding, and coverage related activities.

- Prior authorizations
- Prior authorization appeals/peer-to-peers
- Claim appeals
- Billing/coding/coverage questions

For questions or case management support, please call the Respicardia Reimbursement Hotline at **1-952-540-4470** or email questions to reimbursement@respicardia.com.

This guide and all supporting documents are available for download at www.respicardia.com/reimbursement.

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TRANSVENOUS PHRENIC NERVE STIMULATION FOR CENTRAL SLEEP APNEA

Therapy Overview

The **remedē**® System is an implantable system that safely and effectively treats moderate to severe central sleep apnea (CSA) in adult patients.¹ CSA is a serious breathing disorder that disrupts the normal breathing pattern during sleep and has been shown to negatively impact quality of life and cardiovascular health.² The **remedē** System is an implantable system that stimulates a nerve in the chest (the phrenic nerve) to send signals to the large muscle that controls breathing (the diaphragm).

In a clinical study, the **remedē** System has been shown to significantly improve CSA patient outcomes:

- 91% of patients had a reduction in the number of sleep apnea events per hour at 12 months³
- 82% of patients had an improvement in quality of life³
- 95% of patients would get **remedē** again³

Device and Implant Procedure

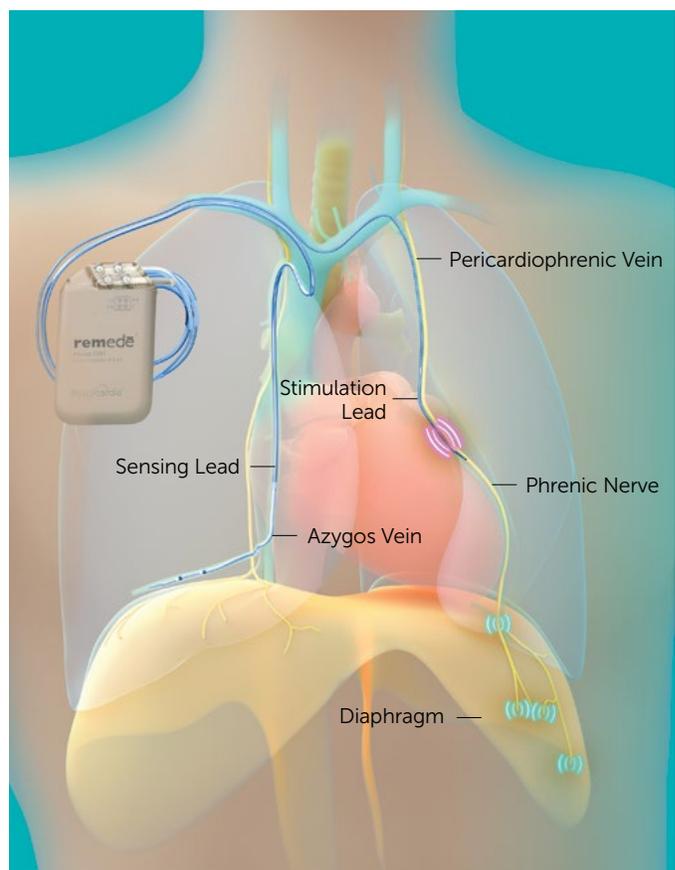
The **remedē** System is placed during a minimally invasive procedure. The system consists of a battery powered implantable pulse generator (IPG) device placed under the skin in the upper chest area with two small thin wires (leads), one to deliver the therapy (stimulation lead) and one to sense breathing (sensing lead). The stimulation lead stimulates the phrenic nerve and the sensing lead gathers transthoracic impedance data.

Postoperative Care

Postoperative care is recommended to optimize therapy with the **remedē** System. Regular patient follow-up should be scheduled every 3-6 months to monitor the condition of the IPG battery and to confirm that therapy settings are appropriately programmed.

The IPG should be replaced when the IPG battery has been depleted and either the elective replacement indicator (ERI) or end of life (EOL) indicator is displayed on the **remedē** System programmer.

The decision to remove the **remedē** System is the responsibility of the physician and patient, and should be determined on a case-by-case basis.



COVERAGE

FDA Approval

The **remedē**® System received Premarket Approval (PMA) from the FDA on October 6, 2017. The FDA-approved indications for use are as follows:

Indications for use: The **remedē** System is an implantable phrenic nerve stimulator indicated for the treatment of moderate to severe central sleep apnea (CSA) in adult patients.

Contraindications: The **remedē** System is contraindicated for the following:

- Patients with an active infection
- Patients known to require magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

The Instructions for Use document provides further information regarding the procedure, indications for use, contraindications, warnings, precautions, and potential adverse events. The FDA has posted 1) the Summary of Safety and Effectiveness Data (SSED), 2) the FDA Approval Letter, 3) the Implant System Directions for Use (Physician Labeling), and 4) the Patient Guide (Patient Labeling) on its website located at:

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/recently-approved-devices/remeder-system-p160039>

Medicare Coverage

Currently, there is no National Coverage Determination (NCD) related to the **remedē** System. Check with your local Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) regarding any Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) related to the **remedē** System. Medicare may cover the **remedē** System on a case-by-case basis, with evidence of medical necessity. While traditional Medicare does not require or allow prior authorization or prior approval for procedures, Medicare Advantage plans are managed by commercial payers who may require prior authorization for Medicare Advantage patients. Check with your plan administrator for any prior authorization requirements.

Private Payer Coverage

Commercial insurance coverage policies vary and many require prior authorization for an elective procedure such as the **remedē** System. We encourage health care professionals (HCPs) to contact payer(s) directly with questions regarding coverage policies or guidelines for the **remedē** System.

Respicardia offers the **remedē** Patient Access Program which can assist in determining the availability of coverage for your patients and facilitating prior authorization support services.

Reimbursement Denials

The **remedē** System is currently classified with CPT® Category III codes by the American Medical Association. CPT Category III codes are a set of temporary codes that allow data collection for emerging technologies, services, procedures, and service paradigms. Many payers initially deny therapies with a CPT III code as investigational or experimental and an appeal may be required to obtain a successful prior authorization or claim approval for the **remedē** System. Most commercial health plans have a method by which denials can be appealed through a process documented in the Provider Manual. Contact the Respicardia Reimbursement Hotline for additional information and resources to support your patient case appeal process.

CODING AND PHYSICIAN BILLING

This coding information is provided for general reimbursement information purposes only. It is not intended to provide advice about how to code, complete or submit any claim for payment, nor is it intended to increase or maximize reimbursement by any third-party payer. It is the responsibility of the health services provider to confirm the appropriate coding required by their local Medicare carriers, fiscal intermediaries, and commercial payers.

Diagnosis Codes

The **remedē** System is used to treat moderate to severe Central Sleep Apnea (CSA) in adult patients. Diagnosis coding for Central Sleep Apnea may include the following codes:

ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Codes

ICD-10-CM CODE ⁵	DESCRIPTION
Insertion/Replacement/Removal	
G47.31	Primary Central Sleep Apnea
G47.32	Central Sleep Apnea due to high altitude periodic breathing
G47.37	Central sleep apnea in conditions classified elsewhere
Procedure or Device Follow-up Care	
Z45.42	Encounter for adjustment and management of neuropacemaker; brain, peripheral nerve, spinal cord

CPT® Procedure Codes and Physician Billing

Hospitals report outpatient procedures using CPT codes which are used for physician billing. The **remedē** System is currently classified as a CPT Category III code, which is indicated by the alphanumeric indicator "T" at the end of each code. As a Category III therapy, the **remedē** System has not yet been assigned a Relative Value Unit (RVU) amount. This is indicated in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) status indicator "C", which means commercial payers and MACs will establish the RVU and payment amounts for these services at their discretion .

The following is not legal or coding advice. See important disclaimer on page 2. Providing a comparable CPT code may assist payers in processing claims that include an unlisted procedure. Industry practice has evolved, based on the expectation from many U.S. commercial insurers and MACs, that a comparable established CPT code may be provided that best approximates the effort associated with the unlisted procedure. This may help the payer better understand what was performed for the unlisted procedure and value it accordingly. The comparable CPT code should be provided in the accompanying documentation when billing the procedure and include a concise description of an "unlisted procedure code" or a "NOC" code in Box 19 of the physician's claim form.

For additional information on RVU and payment crosswalk examples, contact your payer and/or the Respicardia Reimbursement Hotline.

CPT® Codes and Physician Billing Table

CPT CODE ⁴	DESCRIPTION	MPFS STATUS INDICATOR ⁶	RVU	2021 MEDICARE NATIONAL AVERAGE PAYMENT
Insertion/Replacement				
0424T	Insertion or replacement of neurostimulator system for treatment of central sleep apnea; complete system (transvenous placement of right or left stimulation lead, sensing lead, implantable pulse generator)	C	Not Available	Carrier Priced
0425T	sensing lead only			
0426T	stimulation lead only			
0427T	pulse generator only			
Removal				
0428T	Removal of neurostimulator system for treatment of central sleep apnea; pulse generator only	C	Not Available	Carrier Priced
0429T	sensing lead only			
0430T	stimulation lead only			
0431T	Removal and replacement of neurostimulator system for treatment of central sleep apnea, pulse generator only			
Repositioning				
0432T	Repositioning of neurostimulator system for treatment of central sleep apnea; stimulation lead only	C	Not Available	Carrier Priced
0433T	sensing lead only			
Device Interrogation and Programming				
0434T	Interrogation device evaluation implanted neurostimulator pulse generator system for central sleep apnea	C	Not Available	Carrier Priced
0435T	Programming device evaluation of implanted neurostimulator pulse generator system for central sleep apnea; single session			
0436T	during sleep session			

For information on RVU and payment crosswalk examples, contact your payer and/or the Respicardia Reimbursement Hotline.

APPEALING A DENIED CLAIM OR PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

Because the **remedē**® System is a novel therapy with a CPT® III code, a payers' appeal process may need to be utilized in order to obtain payment or authorization for patient care. Respicardia offers the **remedē** Patient Access Program that advocates on behalf of patients who qualify for the remedē System to exhaust all avenues in the prior-authorization appeal process. This program is available for procedural prior-authorization and claim appeals as well as the related physician services billed. Contact the Respicardia Reimbursement Hotline for more information on how to enroll your patient case in the remedē Patient Access Program.

We have found that successfully responding to a claim denial requires evaluating why the claim was denied, presenting the clinical need for the therapy, and citing the relevant evidence to convince the reviewer. We can provide letter templates and recommend you include the following details in your appeal:

1. Evaluate the Denial

- What was the stated rationale for denial? Take time to understand the specific points listed in the denial notice (i.e. reason codes, remark codes and denial codes)
- What is the appeal process? Most insurers have a defined process with deadlines and specific requests; be sure to adhere to this process
- What is the background and specialty of the peer reviewer? Assess the reviewer's relevant experience in order to best tailor an argument to that person's background

2. Present the Clinical Need

- Highlight the patient CSA symptoms and relevant comorbidities: Describe how long the patient has suffered from CSA, and how CSA has reduced the patient's quality of life (e.g. Severe fatigue, cognitive decline, inability to hold a job or participate regularly in activities, mood changes, frequent night-time arousals and abrupt awakenings accompanied by shortness of breath, describe any relevant comorbidities that may be worsened by the disease, including heart failure, atrial fibrillation, and stroke-risk)
- Use relevant sleep metrics to demonstrate the severity of the disease: Share the Apnea-hypopnea Index (AHI), average length of apnea, and/or number of arousals per hour. These statistics often highlight how much time the patient spends without active breathing during the night.
- Share other relevant treatment options previously attempted by the patient: Mention if the patient has tried and failed CPAP, ASV, oxygen, pharmaceutical, or any other therapies often attempted. If the patient could not tolerate a PAP-based therapy, share reasons why.
- Provide clinical rationale for the decision to implant the **remedē** System: Explain why the **remedē** System was the best or only available treatment option, e.g.
 - ASV was contraindicated because patient had reduced ejection fraction
 - Patient was unable to tolerate PAP therapies
 - Patient had attempted PAP therapy but symptoms did not improve
 - Physician perceived a mortality risk for positive airway pressure therapy
 - Patient cognitive decline made it necessary to utilize a therapy that did not require patient compliance

3. Cite Clinical Evidence

Contact the Respicardia Reimbursement Hotline for an extensive list of publications related to Central Sleep Apnea and the **remedē** System as well as sample appeal letter templates.

For questions or case management support, please
call the Respicardia Reimbursement Hotline at
1-952-540-4470 or email questions to reimbursement@respicardia.com.

Learn more at respicardia.com

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1. Costanzo M, et al. Transvenous neurostimulation for central sleep apnoea: a randomised controlled trial. *The Lancet*. 2016; 388: 974–82.
2. Costanzo MR, Khayat R, Ponikowski P, et al. State-of-the-art review: Mechanisms and clinical consequences of untreated central sleep apnea in heart failure. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2015;65:72-84.
3. Costanzo M, et al. Sustained Twelve Month Benefit of Phrenic Nerve Stimulation for Central Sleep Apnea. *Am J Cardiol* 2018;121:1400-8.
4. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) Professional Edition 2021. Copyright 2018 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.
5. ICD-10-CM Expert for Physicians and Hospitals, 2021. AAPC.
6. 2021 CMS MPFS Addendum B.

Important Safety Information

The **remedē**® System is indicated for moderate to severe Central Sleep Apnea in adult patients. A doctor will need to evaluate the patient's condition to determine if the **remedē** System is appropriate. Patients will not be able to have an MRI or diathermy (special heat therapies) if the **remedē** system is implanted. The **remedē** System may be used with another stimulation device such as a heart pacemaker or defibrillator; special testing will be needed to ensure the devices are not interacting.

As with any surgically implanted device, there are risks related to the surgical procedure itself which may include, but are not limited to, pain, swelling, and infection.

Once the therapy is turned on, some patients may experience discomfort from stimulation and/or from the presence of the device. The majority of these events are resolved either on their own or by adjusting the therapy settings. The **remedē** System may not work for everyone. There are additional risks associated with removing the system. If it is decided to remove the system, another surgery will be required.

Be sure to understand all of the risks and benefits associated with the implantation of the **remedē** System.

For further information, please visit www.respicardia.com, call +1-952-540-4470 or email info@respicardia.com.

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Rx Only.

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The **remedē**® System has received FDA and CE Mark approvals.

RMB1730, Rev C