

RESOLUTION

Subject: Coronary Calcium Scoring Coverage by Insurance Companies

Submitted by: Greater Louisville Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, coronary artery disease is the number one cause of death in the Commonwealth of Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky is the 6th highest state with atheromatous heart disease in the nation; and

WHEREAS, compared to the national average of 9.1%, 12.4% of adults in the Commonwealth have a diagnosis of coronary heart disease, myocardial infarction (heart attack), or stroke; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky has some of the highest risk factors that lead to heart disease in the country – 24.6% are smokers, 37% are obese; and

WHEREAS, heart disease mortality in the Appalachian region was 45% higher than the national rate and 32% more than non-Appalachians; and

WHEREAS, screening for prevention of disease is a public health measure. Coronary Calcium Scoring (CACS) has the potential to identify individuals at higher risk of coronary artery disease; and

WHEREAS, the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association (AHA) guidelines on prevention recommend the use of CACS to better understand the risk of future cardiovascular events; and

WHEREAS, the Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Task Force of Kentucky, in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Public Health's Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention program, recommends preventive screening of lipids (cholesterol) and CACS for earlier identification of at-risk individuals; and

WHEREAS, the AHA forecasts annual health care costs for cardiovascular disease to quadruple, from \$393 billion to \$1490 billion, and productivity losses to increase by 54%; and

WHEREAS, Coronary Calcium Scoring is not yet required to be covered by insurance companies as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that KMA encourages and supports legislation that requires coverage for Coronary Calcium Scoring CT testing.

Reference

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