



## **Changes to Long Term EEG Codes to Take Effect January 1, 2020**

### **Why are codes changing?**

In November 2016, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) identified CPT Code 95951 (VEEG) as a high-volume service since growth in Medicare claims exceeded 10,000 and increased by at least 100% from 2009 -2014. CMS seeks a re-evaluation of the relative values for the service when this occurs. NAEC joined with AAN and ACNS to revise the existing coding structure prior to the review by the AMA Relative Value Update Committee (RUC). The codes were presented to the CPT Editorial panel at four meetings in 2017 and 2018.

### **New code structure and relative value units approved in 2018:**

At its May 2018 meeting, the CPT panel accepted revisions to the long term EEG Codes. The AMA RUC considered the codes at its October 2018 meeting and voted to recommend to CMS physician work values and practice expense inputs for the new codes.

CMS may or may not accept the RUC recommendations for Medicare services. The new code definitions are embargoed until August 2019 and the RUC recommendations are confidential.

### **Major revisions to the coding structure include:**

- Codes 95950, 95951, 95953, 95956 are being deleted.
- 23 codes are being established to replace the deleted codes - 13 Technical Component only Codes and 10 Professional Component only Codes. All codes are for 8 or more channels of EEG, but are further differentiated by the length of time for EEG recording, and the addition of simultaneous video recording.

### **Timeline for implementation:**

- July 2019 – Proposed values for codes published in Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule
- August 2019 - AMA CPT Manual for 2020 becomes available with the full description of the codes and CPT introductory language.
- November 2019 – Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule published with final values
- January 1, 2020 – New codes take effect

**In coordination with AAN, ACNS, and AES, NAEC will be developing educational materials and webinars on the new codes once the embargo is lifted in August. In addition, there will be a session focused on the new codes during the 2019 AES Annual Meeting.**