

ANESTHESIA SERVICES HOW TO CALCULATE REIMBURSEMENT RATES

1. How do I calculate the reimbursement rate for anesthesiology services?

The reimbursement rate for anesthesiology services is calculated by adding the Time Units (TU) and the Base Units (BU) and multiplying the total by the applicable Maryland Specific Conversion Factor (MSCF) as follows:

$$\text{MRA} = (\text{TU} + \text{BU}) \times \text{MSCF}$$

2. Where do I find the Base Units/Basic Values?

"**Base Unit/Basic Value**" is the value assigned by CMS to each anesthesia procedure code. The Base Units may be obtained from the CMS website. If you want to obtain your own spreadsheet of Base Units/Basic Value to calculate the MRA follow these steps:

1. Go to "<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/>"
2. Click on "Medicare" at the top of the page.
3. Scroll down to "Browse by Provider Type" and click on "Anesthesiologists Center."
4. Go to "Billing / Payment" and Click on "2008 Anesthesia Base Units by CPT Code."
(This is a ZIP File that does not display the CPT description.)

OR

You may obtain a .PDF of the entire list of CPT Codes for Anesthesia from our web page.

3. How do I calculate Time Units?

A "Time Unit" is a measure of each 15-minute interval, or fraction thereof, during which anesthesiology services are performed. This value must be calculated based upon the length of time spent by the provider rendering the service:

$$\text{Time Units} = \text{Total Minutes of Service} / 15$$

4. What is the Maryland Specific Conversion Factor (MSCF) for Anesthesiology Services?

After March 24, 2008, the MSCF for anesthesia services is \$19.39.

$$\text{MSCF} = (\text{CMS 2004 conversion rate}) \times 109\% = (\$17.79) \times 1.09 = \$19.39$$

5. Sample Calculation:

The Base Unit for Anesthesia CPT 00100 (Anesth, salivary gland) = 5.

The time units for a procedure that takes 120 minutes to perform would be:

$$120/15 = 8 \text{ TUs}$$

Using the above figures the MRA would be calculated as follows:

$$(8 + 5) \times \$19.39 = \$252.07$$