

Comprehensive Arrhythmia Panels

- I. Comprehensive arrhythmia panels are considered **medically necessary** when:
 - A. The member meets one of the following:
 1. The member has a first-degree relative with sudden cardiac death (SCD) or sudden unexplained death (SUD) before age 50 years, **OR**
 2. The member has a first-degree relative with sudden cardiac death (SCD) at age 50 years or older, **AND**
 - a) The deceased individual had family history of premature SCD, **OR**
 - b) The deceased individual's death is suspicious for genetic heart disease, **OR**
 - B. The member has unexplained sudden cardiac arrest, **AND**
 1. Clinical tests were non-diagnostic for reversible, ischemic, or structural causes (e.g., ECG, cardiac stress tests, echocardiogram, intravenous pharmacologic provocation testing).
- II. Comprehensive arrhythmia panels are considered **investigational** for all other indications.

DEFINITIONS

1. **Close relatives** include first, second, and third degree blood relatives:
 - a. **First-degree relatives** are parents, siblings, and children
 - b. **Second-degree relatives** are grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and half siblings

- c. **Third-degree relatives** are great grandparents, great aunts, great uncles, great grandchildren, and first cousins
2. **Sudden cardiac arrest** is defined as “the sudden cessation of cardiac activity so that the victim becomes unresponsive, with no normal breathing and no signs of circulation. If corrective measures are not taken rapidly, this condition progresses to sudden death. Cardiac arrest should be used to signify an event as described above, that is reversed, usually by CPR and/or defibrillation or cardioversion, or cardiac pacing” (Buxton, et al).
3. **Sudden cardiac death (SCD)** is death due to a cardiovascular cause that occurs within one hour of the onset of symptoms

REFERENCES

1. Wilde AAM, Semsarian C, Márquez MF, et al. European Heart Rhythm Association/Heart Rhythm Society/Asia Pacific Heart Rhythm Society/Latin American Heart Rhythm Society expert consensus statement on the state of genetic testing for cardiac diseases. [published correction appears in Europace. 2022 Aug 30]. *Europace*. 2022;24(8):1307-1367. doi:10.1093/europace/euac030