



## MEDICAL POLICY STATEMENT

### Wisconsin Marketplace

Policy Name & Number	Date Effective
Fraction Flow Reserve from Computer Tomography (FFRct)-WI MP-MM-1688	01/01/2026
Policy Type	
MEDICAL	

Medical Policy Statements are derived from literature based on and supported by clinical guidelines, nationally recognized utilization and technology assessment guidelines, other medical management industry standards, and published MCO clinical policy guidelines. Medically necessary services include, but are not limited to, those health care services or supplies that are proper and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness, or injury and without which the patient can be expected to suffer prolonged, increased, or new morbidity, impairment of function, dysfunction of a body organ or part, or significant pain and discomfort. These services meet the standards of good medical practice in the local area, are the lowest cost alternative, and are not provided mainly for the convenience of the member or provider. Medically necessary services also include those services defined in any Evidence of Coverage or Certificate of Coverage documents, Medical Policy Statements, Provider Manuals, Member Handbooks, and/or other plan policies and procedures.

Medical Policy Statements do not ensure an authorization or payment of services. Please refer to the plan contract (often referred to as the Evidence of Coverage or Certificate of Coverage) for the service(s) referenced in the Medical Policy Statement. Except as otherwise required by law, if there is a conflict between the Medical Policy Statement and the plan contract, then the plan contract will be the controlling document used to make the determination.

According to the rules of Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of a behavioral health disorder will not be subject to any limitations that are less favorable than the limitations that apply to medical conditions as covered under this policy.

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A. Subject

**Fraction Flow Reserve from Computer Tomography (FFRct)**

B. Background

Heart disease, with coronary artery disease (CAD) being the most common, is the leading cause of death for men and women. The traditional test in management of coronary artery stenosis is a procedure where the fractional flow reserve measures the blood pressure to determine adequate blood flow or blockage during an invasive coronary angiography.

A noninvasive alternative for stable symptomatic members with CAD is Heartflow Fraction Flow Reserve from Computer Tomography (FFRct), in which a digital 3-D model of the heart arteries is created to assist in determining restricted blood flow. Heartflow FFRct is intended to be used in conjunction with clinical history, symptoms, diagnostic tests, and the clinician's professional judgement.

C. Definitions

- **FFRct** – a mathematically derived quantity, computed from simulated pressure, velocity and blood flow information that was obtained from a 3D computer model derived from a coronary CT image.
- **Heartflow FFRct** – post-processing software for the clinical quantitative and qualitative analysis of previously acquired computed tomography,

D. Policy

I. FFRct technology may be considered reasonable and necessary in the management of patients with symptomatic, stable ischemic heart disease (SIHD) with at least one intermediate coronary stenosis (30-70% identified on coronary CTA. And when it is required to guide the need for invasive coronary angiography or revascularization

II. Procedure limitations

The safety and effectiveness of FFRct has not been evaluated for the following populations:

- A. suspicion of acute coronary syndrome (where acute myocardial infarction or unstable angina have not been ruled out)
- B. recent prior myocardial infarction within 30 days
- C. complex congenital heart disease
- D. prior coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery
- E. patients with a body mass index >35
- F. patients who require emergent procedures or have any evidence of ongoing or active clinical instability, including acute chest pain (sudden onset), cardiogenic shock, unstable blood pressure with systolic blood pressure <90 mmHg, severe congestive heart failure (New York Heart Association [NYHA] III or IV) or acute pulmonary edema

III. Contraindications:

- A. Severe contrast allergy
- B. Severe renal dysfunction
- C. Arrhythmias or high heart rate that impair image quality
- D. Pregnancy
- E. Inability to follow instructions regarding holding breath.

IV. FFR-CT should not be repeated within 12 months unless:

- A. New or worsening symptoms, and
- B. Repeat CTA is being performed due to suspected disease progression.

E. Conditions of Coverage

NA

F. Related Policies/Rules

NA

G. Review/Revision History

DATE		ACTION
Date Issued	08/14/2024	New Policy. Approved at Committee.
Date Revised	10/08/2025	Added “with at least one intermediate coronary stenosis (30-70% identified on coronary CTA. And when it is required to guide the need for invasive coronary angiography or revascularization” to Sec. 1. Updated references. Approved at Committee.
Date Effective	01/01/2026	
Date Archived		

H. References

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2. Cardiac catheterization and angiography: ACG-A-0001. MCG, 29th ed. Updated June 13, 2025. Accessed September 05, 2025. [www.careweb.careguidelines.com](http://www.careweb.careguidelines.com).
3. Centers for Disease Control. Heart Disease Facts. Oct. 24, 2024. Accessed September 05, 2025. [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
4. ECRI. FFRct Software (HeartFlow, Inc.) for Evaluating Coronary Artery Disease. March 15, 2019. Accessed September 05, 2025. [www.ecri.org](http://www.ecri.org)
5. Food and Drug Administration. DeNovo Classification Request for FFRctv. 1.4. Accessed September 05, 2025. [www.accessdata.fda.gov](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov).
6. Health Technology Assessment. Noninvasive Computed Fractional Flow Reserve from Computed Tomography for Coronary Artery Disease. Hayes; 2023. Updated Dec 6, 2023. Accessed September 05, 2025. [www.hayesinc.com](http://www.hayesinc.com)
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The MEDICAL Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the MEDICAL Policy Statement Policy and is approved.

8. Knuuti J, Wijns W, Saraste A, et al. 2019 ESC guidelines for the diagnosis and management of chronic coronary syndromes. *Eur Heart J.* 2020;41:407-477. doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehz425
9. Nous F, Budde RPJ, Fairbairn TA, et al. Temporal changes in FFRCT-Guided Management of Coronary Artery Disease - Lessons from the ADVANCE Registry. *J Cardiovasc Comput Tomogr.* 2021;15(1):48-55. doi:10.1016/j.jcct.2020.04.011
10. Pontone G, Guaricci AI, Palmer SC, et al. Diagnostic performance of non-invasive imaging for stable coronary artery disease: a meta-analysis. *Int J Cardiol.* 2020;300:276-281. doi:10.1016/j.ijcard.2019.10.046

*Independent medical review – 12/2020*

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