CHAPTER 4
SECTION 12.1

MEDIASTINUM AND DIAPHRAGM

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I. CPT[1] PROCEDURE CODE RANGE

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II. DESCRIPTION

The mediastinum involves the mass of tissues and organs separating the two lungs, between the sternum in front and the vertebral column behind, and from the thoracic inlet above to the diaphragm below. It contains the heart and its large vessels, the trachea, esophagus, thymus, lymph nodes, and other structures and tissues. The diaphragm involves the musculomembranous partition separating the abdominal and thoracic cavities, and serves as a major inspiratory muscle.

III. POLICY

Services and supplies required in the diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury involving either the mediastinum or diaphragm are covered.

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