

## DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

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### I. CPT<sup>1</sup> PROCEDURE CODES

40490 - 40831, 40899 - 43644, 43647, 43648, 43651 - 43761, 43800, 43810, 43820, 43842, 43846, 43848, 43880 - 43882, 43999, 44005 - 47362, 47371, 47379, 47381, 47399 - 49999, 91123, 96570, 96571

### II. DESCRIPTION

The digestive system involves the organs associated with the ingestion, digestion, and absorption of nutrients, and the elimination of solid waste.

### III. POLICY

A. Services and supplies required in the diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury involving the digestive system are covered.

B. Gastric electrical stimulation (CPT<sup>1</sup> procedure codes 43647, 43648, 43881, and 43882) for treatment of symptoms of nausea and vomiting from chronic gastroparesis that is refractory to medical management may be considered for coverage as a Humanitarian Use Device (HUD).

### IV. EXCLUSIONS

A. Vestibuloplasty (CPT<sup>1</sup> procedure code range 40840-40845) EXCEPT for adjunctive dental care ([Chapter 8, Section 13.1](#)).

B. Percutaneous interstitial thermal ablation in the treatment of hepatic cancer is unproven.

C. The Stretta System (Curon Medical, Sunnyvale, CA) and Bard Endoscopic Suturing System for the treatment of refractory gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) is unproven (CPT<sup>1</sup> procedure codes 43201 and 43257).

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**TRICARE POLICY MANUAL 6010.54-M, AUGUST 1, 2002**

CHAPTER 4, SECTION 13.1

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D. For bariatric procedures, see [Section 13.2](#).

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