A Guide to Reimbursement

Methacholine Challenge Test

This resource was designed to ensure you are aware of the drug reimbursement code (J-code) and the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT codes) that you should be billing for with each methacholine challenge test.

CODE OVERVIEW

**J-7674** – One unit for each milligram of Provocholine (methacholine chloride)

  Each Provocholine vial contains 100mg of methacholine chloride

**95070** – One unit for administering the methacholine

**94070** – One unit which covers the multiple spirometric determinations included in the bronchospasm evaluation

See the next page for full descriptions and additional references.

Methacholine challenge tests are usually considered medically necessary when the following ICD-10 codes are used:

- 493.00  (Extrinsic asthma, unspecified)
- 493.10  (Intrinsic asthma, unspecified)
- 493.20  (Chronic obstructive asthma unspecified)
- 493.90  (Asthma, unspecified, unspecified status)
- 786.00  (Unspecified respiratory abnormality)
- 786.01  (Hyperventilation)
- 786.02  (Orthopnea)
- 786.03  (Apnea)
- 786.04  (Cheyne – strokes respiration)
- 786.05  (Shortness of breath)
- 786.06  (Tachypnea)
- 786.07  (Wheezing)
- 786.09  (Other dyspnea and respiratory abnormalities)
- 786.20  (Cough)

**EXAMPLE**

For example, if you used a 100 mg vial of Provocholine for one patient, you would bill for 100 units under the J-code and should receive $52.80 (will be in effect January 1 through to March 31, 2018). Reimbursement for the CPT codes outlined above, vary based on region. To find out how much you should be reimbursed for each of the codes in your area visit CMS.gov and use the Physician Fee Schedule Search.
Provocholine® (methacholine chloride) powder for solution, for inhalation, is marketed in the United States, Canada and other countries. Provocholine is indicated for the diagnosis of bronchial airway hyperreactivity in subjects who do not have clinically apparent asthma. Provocholine is a bronchoconstrictor agent for diagnostic purposes only and should not be used as a therapeutic agent.

Provocholine inhalation challenge should be performed only under the supervision of a physician trained in and thoroughly familiar with all aspects of the technique of methacholine challenge, all contraindications, warnings and precautions, and the management of respiratory distress. Emergency equipment and medication should be immediately available to treat acute respiratory distress.

For complete prescribing information, please consult the Package Insert which is available for download at www.provocholine.com or on request by calling Methapharm Medical Information at 1-800-287-7686 | 519-751-3602 ext. 7804 or faxing us at 519-751-9149. You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit MedWatch or call 1-800-FDA(332)-1088. This information is provided as a professional courtesy, and it is intended to provide data available to use that may assist you in deriving your own conclusions and opinions. This information is not intended to advocate any indications, dosage, or other claim that is not described in the package insert. Copyright © Methapharm Inc. 2017.

### CODE DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CPT Code</th>
<th>CMS Description</th>
<th>Additional References</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J-7674</td>
<td>Methacholine chloride administered as inhalation solution through a nebulizer (per mg)</td>
<td>Provocholine® (methacholine chloride) is supplied in 100 mg vials and, depending on your facility’s protocol, a single 100 mg vial should be sufficient to prepare all of the challenge solutions for a single patient.</td>
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<tr>
<td>95070</td>
<td>Inhalation bronchial challenge testing (not including necessary pulmonary function tests); with histamine, methacholine, or similar compounds</td>
<td>A single encounter for this type of test is coded as 95070 when methacholine is the agent used for testing. Pulmonary function testing studies are not included in the bronchial challenge tests and are coded separately (see CPT code 94070 below).</td>
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<tr>
<td>94070</td>
<td>Bronchospasm provocation evaluation, multiple spirometric determinations as in 94010, with administered agents (eg: antigen(s), cold air, methacholine)</td>
<td>The multiple spirometric determinations performed during a methacholine challenge test are included in this code.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Additional Codes:** There are additional CPT codes that potentially may be used based on the completed procedures in addition to the methacholine challenge test. These codes were not included on this resource as they may not be accepted by all local carriers and in some cases are considered mutually exclusive.

**Place of Service:** In a hospital setting the professional and technical codes can be billed separately. In a physician office setting the professional and technical codes are combined.

**Additional Notes:** It is very important to consult with your billing department or coders to improve understanding of the reimbursement rules in your local area.

For more information, please contact Methapharm at 519.751.3602 | 1.800.287.7686