

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

sMed# 01004

What is it?

HCPCS Codes – G0389

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening is an ultrasound B-scan with image documentation for abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) screening. An abdominal aortic aneurysm is a localized dilatation of the abdominal aorta that exceeds the normal diameter by more than 50%. The normal diameter is 2 cm. This condition is caused by a degenerative process of the aortic wall, however the exact cause remains unknown.

An abdominal aortic aneurysm occurs most commonly in older individuals (between 65 and 75), and more in men and smokers. The majority of abdominal aortic aneurysms do not cause symptoms. Symptomatic and large aneurysms (>5 cm in diameter) are considered for repair.

Criteria

One-time abdominal aortic aneurysm screening is considered medically necessary per lifetime for males age 65 – 75 who have smoked at least 100 cigarettes during their lifetime.

■ **Abdominal aortic aneurysm screening** is considered not medically necessary for patients who do not meet the criteria stated above.

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