

How Codes Are Valued

RVS Update Committee (RUC) Process

The AGA is an active participant in the AMA/Specialty Value Update Committee (RUC) process to maintain appropriate work values for GI procedures. It is vital that AGA members participate in the survey process to determine appropriate physician work and practice expense values, which informs Medicare reimbursement.

SOURCE

- CPT editorial panel adopts coding change.
- or -
- CMS/RUC requests review of code value.

SPECIALTY SOCIETY(IES)

- Society advisors review CMS request.
- Inform RUC on how society will proceed.

LEVELS OF INTEREST

Codes do not
require new values

No comment

Comment on other
societies' proposals

Survey
physicians

RUC MEETING

- Specialty society presents recommendations to the RUC for either acceptance or modification.
- RUC submits physician work relative value unit (wRVU) and practice expense recommendations to CMS.

SURVEYS

- Random sample of physicians may receive survey (*survey measures physician work time and procedure intensity*).
- Specialty society advisors prepare recommendations.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS)

- Accepts or modifies RUC's recommendations.

MEDICARE PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- CMS issues physician fee schedule "proposed rule."
- Specialty society submits comments.
- CMS issues physician fee schedule "final rule" and conversion factor.

