



**2009**

## **EXTERNAL COUNTER-PULSATION CRITERIA (MEDICARE)**

External counter-pulsation (ECP) is medically necessary for members who meet **BOTH** of the following criteria:

- Members with disabling angina (New York Heart Association Class III or Class IV angina)

**AND**

- Members are refractory to maximum medical therapy and not readily amenable to surgical intervention such as percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty (PTCA) or cardiac bypass due to **ANY** of the following:
  - Their condition is inoperable; **OR**
  - They are at high risk of operative complications or postoperative failure; **OR**
  - Their coronary anatomy is not readily amenable to such procedures; **OR**
  - They have co-morbid states that create excessive risk.