



Republic of the Philippines  
**PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION**

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**PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR**

No. 20 / s-2006

**TO : ALL ACCREDITED HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS  
AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : Clarification on the Relative Value Scale (RVS)  
Coding for Manual Phacoemulsification**

This circular is issued to facilitate correct assignment of codes and relative value units (RVU) for "manual phacoemulsification."

1. Phacoemulsification refers to a cataract surgery involving the use of an irrigation-aspiration machine that delivers high frequency waves to break up the cataract into small fragments, making it easier to remove.
2. This procedure cannot be performed manually; hence, all claims for "manual phacoemulsification should be processed using the following RVS code:

Code	Descriptive Terms	RVU
66984	Extracapsular cataract removal with insertion of intraocular lens prosthesis (one stage procedure), (e.g. irrigation and aspiration)	180

3. Operative techniques for all claims for phacoemulsification should indicate the use of a machine for "phacoemulsification" or "phacofragmentation" of the lens. In the absence of this step, claims for phacoemulsification of cataract should be processed using code 66984.

This Circular shall take effect 15 days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Lorna O. Fajardo*  
**LORNA O. FAJARDO, CESO III**  
Acting President and CEO

Date Signed: JUL 28 2006



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