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Anesthesia Fast Fact

If WPS Medicare does not consider payment for a procedure deemed "Cosmetic Surgery," does Medicare Part B cover the related anesthesia service?

No. According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Internet-Only Manual (IOM) Pub. 100-02, Chapter 16, Section 120, cosmetic surgery or expenses incurred in connection with such surgery is not covered.

Cosmetic surgery includes any surgical procedure directed at improving appearance, except when required for the prompt (i.e., as soon as medically feasible) repair of accidental injury or for the improvement of the functioning of a malformed body member. For example, this exclusion does not apply to surgery in connection with treatment of severe burns or repair of the face following a serious automobile accident, or to surgery for therapeutic purposes which coincidentally also serves some cosmetic purpose.