Comments and Responses Regarding Draft Local Coverage Determination: Transrectal Ultrasound

As an important part of Medicare Local Coverage Determination (LCD) development, National Government Services solicits comments from the provider community and from members of the public who may be affected by or interested in our LCDs. The purpose of the advice and comment process is to gain the expertise and experience of those commenting.

We would like to thank those who suggested changes to the draft Transrectal Ultrasound LCD. The official notice period for the final LCD begins on May 15, 2008, and the final determination will become effective on July 1, 2008.

Comment: Recommended adding TURP and Laser Ablation of the prostate to the list of indications for measuring prostate size. Rationale: the size needs to be known to assure the volume/size of the prostate is not too large to allow a non-open procedure.

Response: We agreed to add these as recommended.

Comment: Recommended to add an indication to allow transrectal ultrasound as an aid in placing radiation seeds.

Response: This has been addressed in Indications #9 and #10 in the LCD.

Comment: Recommended to add an indication for the evaluation of anatomic variation and volume of prostate for treatment planning.

Response: This has been addressed in Indication #9 in the LCD.

Comment: Recommended to add an indication for guidance for seminal vesicle aspiration or injection for seminal vesiculitis.

Response: This has been addressed in Indication #8 in the LCD.
Comment: Recommended that we revise Indication # 1 for the Prostate to add brachytherapy.

Response: This has been addressed in Indications #9 and #10 in the LCD.

Comment: Recommended that we add the following ICD-9-CM codes to the policy:
171.6, 180.0, 180.1, 180.8, 180.9, 188.9, 197.6, 569.0, 569.43, 596.0, 599.0, 599.1, 599.2, 599.3, 599.4, 599.5,
599.6, 599.7, 602.0, 602.1, 602.2, 608.83, 608.84, 608.85, 608.86, 608.89, 787.6, 998.6 and V76.49.

Response: We do not feel these codes are necessary and welcome literature in support of these codes for
future consideration

Comment: Recommended that we add CPT code 76942 to the policy.

Response: The CPT procedure code 76942 [Ultrasonic guidance for needle placement (eg, biopsy,
aspiration, injection, localization device), imaging supervision and interpretation] was not included or
added to the policy because this procedure can be used for needle placement in any part of the body
beyond the specific areas addressed by the policy.