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Comments and Responses Regarding Draft Local Coverage Determination: Magnetic Resonance Imaging

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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 Computed Tomography LCD. The official notice period for the final LCD begins on November 17, 2008, and the final determination will become effective on January 1, 2009.

Comment: Several commenters suggested that additional diagnoses be added

Response: For **MRI Abdomen and Pelvis** (CPT codes 72195, 72196, 72197, 74181, 74182, 74183, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD.

187.3	Malignant neoplasm of body of penis
203.02	Malignant myeloma, in relapse
209.00-209.03	Malignant carcinoid tumor of the small intestine, unspecified portion – Malignant carcinoid tumor of the ileum
209.10-209.17	Malignant carcinoid tumor of the large intestine, unspecified portion – Malignant carcinoid tumor of the rectum
209.20	Malignant carcinoid tumor of unknown primary site
209.23-209.24	Malignant carcinoid tumor of the stomach – Malignant carcinoid tumor of the kidney
209.30	Malignant poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma, any site
209.40-209.43	Benign carcinoid tumor of the small intestine, unspecified portion - Benign carcinoid tumor of the ileum
209.50-209.57	Benign carcinoid tumor of the large intestine, unspecified portion - Benign carcinoid tumor of the rectum
209.60	Benign carcinoid tumor of unknown primary site
209.63-209.64	Benign carcinoid tumor of the stomach - Benign carcinoid tumor of the kidney
258.01-258.03	Multiple endocrine neoplasia [men] type I - Multiple endocrine neoplasia [men] type IIB
720.0	Ankylosing spondylitis
733.96	Stress fracture of femoral neck
733.98	Stress fracture of pelvis
996.43-996.45	Prosthetic joint implant failure - Peri-prosthetic osteolysis

996.47 Other mechanical complication of prosthetic joint implant
996.49 Other mechanical complication of other internal orthopedic device, implant, and graft
996.87 Complications of transplanted organ intestine

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as medical necessity is not readily apparent and no supporting literature was supplied.
040.82 Toxic shock syndrome
445.81 Atheroembolism of kidney

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as they are too non-specific to support medical necessity.
780.60 Fever, unspecified
780.65 Hypothermia not associated with low environmental temperature
787.02 Nausea alone
996.40 Unspecified mechanical complication of internal orthopedic device, implant, and graft
998.30 Disruption of wound, unspecified

For **MRI Breast** (CPT codes 77058, 77059, C8903, C8904, C8905, C8906, C8907, C8908, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD. Providers are strongly urged to not resort to the unspecified code if the location of the lesion is known.
174.9 Malignant neoplasm of breast (female) unspecified site
612.0 Deformity of reconstructed breast

The following requested ICD-9-CM code has not been added to the LCD as medical necessity is not readily apparent and no supporting literature was supplied.
612.1 Disproportion of reconstructed breast

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as they are too non-specific to support medical necessity.
198.2 Secondary malignant neoplasm of skin
239.2 Neoplasm of unspecified nature of bone soft tissue and skin
611.9 Unspecified breast disorder

For **MRI Cervical Spine** (CPT codes 72141, 72142, 72156, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD.
203.02 Multiple myeloma, in relapse
209.30 Malignant poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma, any site
349.31 Accidental puncture or laceration of dura during a procedure
349.39 Other dural tear

The following requested ICD-9-CM code has not been added to the LCD as medical necessity is not readily apparent and no supporting literature was supplied.
170.4 Malignant neoplasm of scapula and long bones of upper limb

For **MRI Chest and Thorax** (CPT codes 71550, 71551, 71552, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD.

200.80	Other named variants of lymphosarcoma and reticulosarcoma unspecified site
200.82	Other named variants of lymphosarcoma and reticulosarcoma involving intrathoracic lymph nodes
201.00-201.02	Hodgkin's paragranuloma unspecified site - Hodgkin's paragranuloma involving intrathoracic lymph nodes
203.02	Multiple myeloma, in relapse
203.82	Other immunoproliferative neoplasms, in relapse
209.20-209.23	Malignant carcinoid tumor of unknown primary site - malignant carcinoid tumor of the stomach
209.30	Malignant poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma, any site
209.60-209.63	Benign carcinoid tumor of unknown primary site - Benign carcinoid tumor of the stomach
277.02	Cystic fibrosis with pulmonary manifestations
415.12	Septic pulmonary embolism
423.3	Cardiac tamponade

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as medical necessity is not readily apparent and no supporting literature was supplied.

040.82	Toxic shock syndrome
238.72-238.76	Low grade myelodysplastic syndrome lesions - Myelofibrosis with myeloid metaplasia
718.78	Developmental dislocation of joint other specified site
780.63	Postvaccination fever
870.4	Penetrating wound of orbit with foreign body
871.0 – 871.6	Ocular laceration without prolapse of intraocular tissue - Penetration of eyeball with (nonmagnetic) foreign body
V58.61	Long-term (current) use of anticoagulants

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as they are too non-specific to support medical necessity.

238.9	Neoplasm of uncertain behavior site unspecified
445.01-445.02	Atheroembolism of upper extremity - Atheroembolism of lower extremity
445.81	Atheroembolism of kidney
780.60	Fever, unspecified
780.65	Hypothermia not associated with low environmental temperature
786.05-786.06	Shortness of breath - tachypnea
786.09	Respiratory abnormality other
786.50-786.52	Unspecified chest pain - Painful respiration
786.59	Other chest pain
998.30	Disruption of wound, unspecified

For **MRI Head, Neck, Face, Orbit, Jaw** (CPT codes 70336, 70540, 70542, 70543, 70551, 70552, 70553, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD.

203.02	Multiple myeloma, in relapse
203.82	Other immunoproliferative neoplasms, in relapse
209.30	Malignant poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma, any site
258.01	Multiple endocrine neoplasia [men] type I
349.31	Accidental puncture or laceration of dura during a procedure
349.39	Other dural tear
374.31	Paralytic ptosis
379.92	Swelling or mass of eye
733.45	Aseptic necrosis of bone, jaw
870.4	Penetrating wound of orbit with foreign body
871.1-871.3	Ocular laceration with prolapse or exposure of intraocular tissue - Avulsion of eye
871.6	Penetration of eyeball with (nonmagnetic) foreign body
996.40	Unspecified mechanical complication of internal orthopedic device, implant, and graft
996.49	Other mechanical complication of other internal orthopedic device, implant, and graft

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as medical necessity is not readily apparent and no supporting literature was supplied.

209.21-209.22	Malignant carcinoid tumor of the bronchus and lung - Malignant carcinoid tumor of the thymus
209.61-209.62	Benign carcinoid tumor of the bronchus and lung - Benign carcinoid tumor of the thymus
293.0-293.1	Delirium due to conditions classified elsewhere - Subacute delirium
359.23	Myotonic chondrodystrophy
371.31	Folds and rupture of bowman's membrane
377.43	Optic nerve hypoplasia
380.00-380.01	Perichondritis of pinna unspecified - Acute perichondritis of pinna
743.61-743.66	Congenital ptosis of eyelid - Specified congenital anomalies of orbit
743.69	Other congenital anomalies of eyelids lacrimal system and orbit
871.0	Ocular laceration without prolapse of intraocular tissue
873.0-873.1	Open wound of scalp without complication - Open wound of scalp complicated
V58.61	Long-term (current) use of anticoagulants

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as they are too non-specific to support medical necessity.

379.8	Other specified disorders of eye and adnexa
379.90-379.91	Disorder of eye unspecified - Pain in or around eye
379.93	Redness or discharge of eye
379.99	Other ill-defined disorders of eye
389.20-389.21	Mixed hearing loss, unspecified - Mixed hearing loss, unilateral
455.89	Atheroembolism of other site
519.8	Other diseases of respiratory system not elsewhere classified

780.60 Fever, unspecified
780.63 Postvaccination fever
780.65 Hypothermia not associated with low environmental temperature
998.30 Disruption of wound, unspecified

The following ICD-9-CM code has not been added to the LCD as the nature of the laceration should be specified.
871.4 Unspecified laceration of eye

The following ICD-9-CM code has not been added to the LCD as this should be a contraindication to MRI
871.5 Penetration of eyeball with magnetic foreign body

For **MRI Lower Extremity** (CPT codes 73718, 73719, 73720, 73721, 73722, 73723, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD.
209.29 Malignant carcinoid tumor of other sites
209.30 Malignant poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma, any site
713.5 Charcot foot
714.0 Rheumatoid arthritis
729.6 Residual foreign body in soft tissue
733.93 Stress fracture of tibia or fibula
733.94 Stress fracture of the metatarsals
733.95 Stress fracture of other bone
733.97 Stress fracture of shaft of femur

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as medical necessity is not readily apparent and no supporting literature was supplied.
359.24 Drug induced myotonia
726.72 Tibialis tendinitis
729.5 Pain in limb
729.81 Swelling of limb
782.3 Edema

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as they are too non-specific to support medical necessity.
213.9 Bone tumor
755.67 Anomalies of foot, NEC

The following requested ICD-9-CM code has not been added to the LCD as a conventional X-ray should be sufficient.
718.70 Developmental dislocation of joint site unspecified
825.0-825.1 Fracture of calcaneus, closed - Fracture of calcaneus, open

825.20-825.25 Fracture unspecified bone(s) of foot [except toes], closed – Fracture metatarsal bone(s), closed
825.30-825.35 Fracture unspecified bone(s) of foot [except toes], open – Fracture metatarsal bone(s), open
837.0-837.1 Dislocation of ankle, closed – Dislocation of ankle, open
838.0-838.1 Dislocation of foot, closed – Dislocation of foot, open

For **MRI Lumbar Spine** (CPT codes 72148, 72149, 72158, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD.
203.02 Multiple myeloma, in relapse
209.30 Malignant poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma, any site
349.31 Accidental puncture or laceration of dura during a procedure
349.39 Other dural tear

For **MRI Thoracic Spine** (CPT codes 72146, 72147, 72157, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD.
203.02 Multiple myeloma, in relapse
209.30 Malignant poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma, any site
349.31 Accidental puncture or laceration of dura during a procedure
349.39 Other dural tear

The following requested ICD-9-CM code has not been added to the LCD as medical necessity is not readily apparent and no supporting literature was supplied.
952.00 C_1-C_4 level with unspecified spinal cord injury without evidence of spinal bone injury

For **MRI Upper Extremity** (CPT codes 73218, 73219, 73220, 73221, 73222, 73223, 76376 & 76377) the following requested ICD-9-CM codes have been added to the LCD.
209.29 Malignant carcinoid tumor of other sites
209.30 Malignant poorly differentiated neuroendocrine carcinoma, any site
714.0 Rheumatoid arthritis

The following requested ICD-9-CM codes have not been added to the LCD as medical necessity is not readily apparent and no supporting literature was supplied.
359.24 Drug induced myotonia
729.5 Pain in limb
729.81 Swelling of limb
782.3 Edema

The following requested ICD-9-CM code has not been added to the LCD as a conventional X-ray should be sufficient.
718.70 Developmental dislocation of joint site unspecified

Comment: One commenter suggested that future LCD drafts and revisions indicate what was changed (deleted ICD-9-CM codes for example) be in italics

Response: Prior LCDs used to create the draft were from multiple jurisdictions and all revisions could not be added to a single document.

Comment: One commenter questioned the statement in the "Other Comments" section that requires MRI scan services furnished in a hospital based facility that is not part of the hospital's main campus be performed under "direct" supervision of a radiologist or other qualified physician. The existing NGS policy requires "general" supervision.

Response: The statement has been revised to: "MRI scan services using contrast agents furnished in a hospital based facility that is not part of the hospital's main campus must be performed under "direct" supervision of a radiologist or other qualified physician."

Comment: One commenter requested clarification about whether a radiologist's report documenting the need for three-D rendering is sufficient to support "medical necessity" documentation requirements since the referring physician might not document highly technical information about the specific scan required.

Response: Yes, the radiologists report supporting the use of three-D rendering would be sufficient documentation. The policy is not going to delineate the specific documentation required as it could come from several sources.