

This information applies to all BCN products except BlueCaid and BCN 65

Expanded radiology authorizations apply to these procedure codes

Authorizations required beginning Oct. 1, 2008

In the July-Aug. 2008 *Network News*, we told you that Blue Care Network was expanding the radiology authorization program started in 2007 (*Radiology authorization program expands*, Page 37).

New authorization requirements for the following procedure codes marked with a ♦ symbol become effective Oct. 1, 2008. Authorization requirements for the remainder of the listed procedure codes go into effect Jan. 1, 2009.

Primary care physicians and specialists must submit clinical information via e-referral by responding to questions about the medical need for the procedure.

These authorization requirements do not apply to procedures conducted in urgent care centers, emergency rooms and during inpatient hospital stays.

*Procedure Code	CPT code description
70450	Computed tomography, head or brain; without contrast material
70460	with contrast material(s)
70470	without contrast material, followed by contrast material(s) and further sections
70486	Computed tomography, maxillofacial area, without contrast material
70487	with contrast material
70488	without contrast material followed by contrast material(s) and further sections
70551	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, brain (including brain stem); without contrast material
70552	with contrast material(s)
70553	without contrast material followed by contrast material(s) and further sequences
71250	Computed tomography, thorax; without contrast material
71260	with contrast material(s)
71270	without contrast material followed by with contrast material(s) and further sections
72131	Computed tomography, lumbar spine; without contrast material
72132	with contrast material(s)
72133	Computed tomography, lumbar spine; without contrast materials(s) followed by contrast material(s) and further sections
72141	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, spinal canal and contents, cervical; without contrast material
72142	with contrast material(s)
72146	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, spinal canal and contents, thoracic; without contrast material
72147	with contrast material(s)
72148	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, spinal canal and contents, lumbar; without contrast material
72149	with contrast material(s)

72156	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, spinal canal and contents without contrast material followed by contrast material(s) and further sequences; cervical
72157	thoracic
72158	lumbar
72192	Computed tomography, pelvis; without contrast material
72193	with contrast material(s)
72194	without contrast material(s) followed by contrast material(s) and further sections
73218	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, upper extremity, other than joint; without contrast material(s)
73219	with contrast material(s)
73220	without contrast material(s) follow by contrast material(s) and further sequences
73221	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, any joint of the upper extremity; without contrast material(s)
73222	with contrast material(s)
73223	without contrast material(s) followed by contrast material(s) and further sequences
73718	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, lower extremity, other than joint; without contrast material(s)
73719	with contrast material(s)
73720	without contrast material(s) follow by contrast material(s) and further sequences
73721	Magnetic resonance (eg, proton) imaging, any joint of the lower extremity; without contrast material
73722	with contrast material(s)
73723	without contrast material(s) followed by contrast material(s) and further sequences
74150	Computed tomography, abdomen; without contrast material
74160	with contrast material(s)
74170	without contrast material followed by with contrast material(s) and further sections
74181	Magnetic Resonance (eg, proton) imaging, abdomen; without contrast material(s)
74182	with contrast material(s)
74183	without contrast material(s) followed by with contrast material(s) and further sequences
78201	Liver imaging; static only
78202	Liver imaging; with vascular flow
78205	Liver imaging (SPECT)
78206	with vascular flow
78215	Liver and spleen imaging; static only
78216	with vascular flow
78220	Liver function study with hepatobiliary agents, with serial images
78223	Hepatobiliary ductal system imaging, including gallbladder, with or without pharmacologic interventions, with or without quantitative measurement of gallbladder function
◆ 78460	Myocardial perfusion imaging: (planar) single study, at rest or stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), with or without quantification
◆ 78461	multiple studies (planar), at rest or stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), with or without quantification
◆ 78464	tomographic (SPECT), single study (including attenuation correction when performed), at rest or stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), with or without quantification
◆ 78465	tomographic (SPECT), multiple studies (including attenuation correction when performed), at rest or stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), with or without quantification
◆ 78466	Myocardial imaging, infarct avid, planar quantitative or qualitative
◆ 78468	with ejection fraction by first pass technique
◆ 78469	tomographic SPECT with or without quantification

78472	Cardiac blood pool imaging, gated equilibrium: planar, single study at rest or stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), wall motion study plus ejection fraction, with or without additional quantitative processing
78473	multiple studies at rest or stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), wall motion study plus ejection fraction, with or without additional quantitative processing
◆ 78478	Myocardial perfusion study with wall motion, qualitative or quantitative study (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
◆ 78480	Myocardial perfusion study with ejection fraction (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
78481	Cardiac blood pool imaging (planar), first pass technique; single study, at rest or with stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), wall motion study, plus ejection fraction, with or without quantification
78483	multiple studies, at rest or with stress (exercise and/or pharmacologic), wall motion study, plus ejection fraction, with or without quantification
78494	Cardiac blood pool imaging, gated equilibrium, SPECT, at rest, wall motion study plus ejection fraction, with or without quantitative processing.
78496	Cardiac blood pool imaging, gated equilibrium, single study, at rest, with right ventricular ejection fraction by first pass technique (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)

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