

Nuclear Scan of Liver Function

Providers can expedite a request by submitting a prior authorization request through e-referral and completing the appropriate questionnaire. If all questions are answered, e-referral will determine the status of the case based on the provider's response. If the case pends and BCN cannot authorize it, BCN will contact the provider for additional clinical information.

Code	Description
*78220	Liver function study with hepatobiliary agents, with serial images
<p>In general, this test has been replaced by high-quality US of the liver along with dedicated CT and MRI imaging.</p> <p>However, in very rare situations, it can be a valuable test to evaluate liver function. This is not a commonly performed radiology test today.</p>	
1.	Does the patient have:
2.	An abnormal CT, ultrasound or other imaging test where liver function imaging has been requested? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3.	Abnormal laboratory test(s) of liver function (liver enzymes, bilirubin, etc.)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4.	Pre- or post-operative need for assessment of liver function? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If the test for the patient is not approved and you think the patient needs the test, please call 1-800-392-2512.	
References:	
ACR Practice Guidelines and Technical Standards 2007.	
ACR Appropriateness Criteria, Sept. 2007.	
ACR Practice Guideline for the Performance of Liver/Spleen Scintigraphy (2005).	
Arkles, LB. Diffuse disease of the liver and spleen. In: Murray IPC, Eil PJ, eds. Nuclear Medicine in Clinical Diagnosis and Treatment. Edinburgh: New York, NY: Churchill Livingstone; 1994: 55-62.	
Wells RG, Sty Jr. Radionuclide imaging of the liver, biliary system and spleen. In: Miller JH, Glefand MJ, eds. Nuclear Imaging. 1st edition. Philadelphia, Pa: WB Saunders; 1994: 103-156.	

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