

Professional Pricing Policy	
Subject: Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy Planning and Delivery	
Policy Number: HLRP-0001	Policy Section: Radiology
Last Approval Date: September 1, 2020	Effective Date: October 17, 2020

Disclaimer

These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claims submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement if the service is covered by a member's HealthLink benefit plan. The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc., is covered under a member's benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member's state of residence. You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with Current Procedure Terminology (CPT) codes, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes and/or Revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed code(s) are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to both participating and non-participating providers and facilities. This reimbursement policy also applies to Employer Group Retiree Medicare Advantage programs.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, HealthLink may:

- *Reject or deny the claim*
- *Recover and/or recoup claim payment*

These policies may be superseded by provider or state contract language, or state, federal requirements or mandates. We strive to minimize delays in policy implementation. If there is a delay, we reserve the right to recoup and/or recover claims payment to the effective date, in accordance with the policy. HealthLink reserves the right to review and revise these policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to the website.

Policy

HealthLink will not separately allow Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) planning and delivery procedure codes when billed 14 days prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan. In addition, simulation-aided field setting codes should not be reported for verification of the treatment field during a course of IMRT. The allowance for these services will be included in the allowance associated with CPT code 77301 even if the individual services associated with IMRT planning are performed on the same or different dates of service.

IMRT is an advanced form of conformal radiation that delivers radiation with adjusted intensity to preserve adjoining normal tissue. IMRT can deliver a higher dose of radiation within the tumor while delivering a lower dose of radiation to surrounding healthy tissue.

IMRT is provided in two treatment phases, planning and delivery. The planning phase includes simulations. IMRT treatment plans are tailored to target volumes and are geometrically more accurate than conventional or three-dimensional conformal radiation therapy plans. IMRT planning defines the necessary field sizes, gantry angles and other beam characteristics needed to achieve the desired radiation dose distribution. IMRT treatment delivery basic requirement for all forms is that technology must accurately produce the calculated dose distribution described by the IMRT plan.

Related Coding

Code	Description	Comments
77301	Intensity modulated radiotherapy plan, including dose- volume histograms for target and critical structure partial tolerance specifications	Allowed code

Code	Description	Comments
77014	Computed tomography guidance for placement of radiation therapy fields	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77280	Therapeutic radiology simulation-aided field setting; simple	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77285	Therapeutic radiology simulation-aided field setting; intermediate	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77290	Therapeutic radiology simulation-aided field setting; complex	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77295	3-dimensional radiotherapy plan, including dose-volume histograms	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77306	Teletherapy isodose plan; simple (1 or 2 unmodified ports directed to a single area of interest), includes basic dosimetry calculation(s)	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77307	Teletherapy isodose plan; complex (multiple treatment areas, tangential ports, the use of wedges, blocking, rotational beam, or special beam considerations), includes basic dosimetry calculation(s)	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77316	Brachytherapy isodose plan; simple (calculation[s] made from 1 to 4 sources, or remote after loading brachytherapy, 1 channel), includes basic dosimetry calculation(s)	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77317	Brachytherapy isodose plan; intermediate (calculation[s] made from 5 to 10 sources, or remote after loading brachytherapy, 2-12 channels), includes basic dosimetry calculation(s)	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77318	Brachytherapy isodose plan; complex (calculation[s] made from over 10 sources, or remote after loading brachytherapy, over 12 channels), includes basic dosimetry calculation(s)	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77321	Special teletherapy port plan, particles, hemibody, total body	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77331	Special dosimetry (e.g., TLD, microdosimetry) (specify), only when prescribed by the treating physician	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan
77370	Special medical radiation physics consultation	Not separately allowed when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan

Exemptions

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Definitions

Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)	Technology for delivering highly conformal external beam radiation to a well-defined treatment volume with radiation beams whose intensity varies across the beam.
General Professional Pricing Policy Definitions	

Related Policies and Materials

None

References and Research Materials

This policy has been developed through consideration of the following

- American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO)
- American Society of Radiation Oncology
- CMS
- Office of Inspector General (OIG)

Use of Pricing Policy

This policy is subject to federal and state laws, to the extent applicable, as well as the terms, conditions, and limitations of a member's benefits on the date of service. Pricing Policy is constantly evolving and we reserve the right to review and update these policies periodically.

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