

## 22 Independent Radiology

The policy provisions for radiology providers can be found in the *Alabama Medicaid Agency Administrative Code*, Chapter 34.

### 22.1 Enrollment

HP enrolls Independent Radiology providers and issues provider contracts to applicants who meet the licensure and certification requirements of the state of Alabama, the Code of Federal Regulations, the *Alabama Medicaid Agency Administrative Code*, and the *Alabama Medicaid Provider Manual*.

Federal requirements mandate providers re-enroll periodically with the Alabama Medicaid program. Providers will be notified when they are scheduled to re-enroll. Failure to re-enroll and provide appropriate documentation to complete enrollment will result in an end-date being placed on the provider file. Once a provider file has been closed for failure to timely re-enroll, providers will have to submit a new application for enrollment.

Refer to Chapter 2, *Becoming a Medicaid Provider*, for general enrollment instructions and information. Failure to provide accurate and truthful information or intentional misrepresentation might result in action ranging from denial of application to permanent exclusion.

#### **National Provider Identifier, Type, and Specialty**

A provider who contracts with Alabama Medicaid as an independent radiology provider is added to the Medicaid system with the National Provider Identifiers provided at the time application is made. Appropriate provider specialty codes are assigned to enable the provider to submit requests and receive reimbursements for radiology-related claims.

#### **NOTE:**

The 10-digit NPI is required when filing a claim.

Independent Radiology providers are assigned a provider type of 29 (Independent Radiology). Valid specialties for Independent Radiology providers include the following:

- Mammography (292)
- Nuclear Medicine (327)
- Physiological Lab (Independent Diagnostic Testing Facility) (570)
- Portable X Ray Equipment (291)
- Radiology (290)

#### **Enrollment Policy for Independent Radiology Providers**

To participate in Medicaid, Independent Radiology providers must meet the following requirements:

- Possess certification as a Medicare provider
- Possess a Physician's Supervisory Certification and utilize certified technicians for ultrasounds, Doppler services, and non-invasive peripheral vascular studies if a physiological labs

- Exist independently of any hospital, clinic, or physician's office
- Possess licensure in the state where located, when it is required by that state
- For mammography services, possess a certification issued by the FDA.

## 22.2 Benefits and Limitations

This section describes program-specific benefits and limitations. Refer to Chapter 3, Verifying Recipient Eligibility, for general benefit information and limitations.

Radiology services are professional and technical radiological services, ordered and provided under the direction of a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts. Within the scope of his practice as defined by state law and are provided in an office or similar facility other than an outpatient department of a hospital or clinic and meets the requirements for participation in Medicare. Radiology services are restricted to those that are described by procedures in the CPT manual. Providers will be paid only for covered services, which they actually perform.

An Independent Radiology provider may perform diagnostic mammography, a radiological procedure furnished to a man or woman with signs or symptoms of breast disease, a personal history of breast cancer, or a personal history of biopsy-proven benign breast disease. A diagnostic mammogram includes a physician's interpretation of the results of the procedure. Services are unlimited, but should be billed with procedure codes 77055 and 77056.

An Independent Radiology provider may perform screening mammography, a radiological procedure furnished to a woman without signs or symptoms of breast disease for the purpose of early detection of breast cancer. A screening mammogram includes a physician's interpretation of the results of the procedure. Services are limited to one screening mammogram every 12 months for women ages 50 through 64. This screening should be billed under procedure codes 77052 and 77057.

An Independent Radiology provider may bill for obstetrical ultrasounds. Medicaid covers two obstetrical ultrasounds per year for recipients under fee-for-service. Ultrasound payment is limited to one per day. Medicaid may approve additional ultrasounds if a patient's documented medical condition meets the established criteria. Requests for additional obstetrical ultrasounds must include the required patient information as well as the following:

- Date of requested ultrasound
- Date of request
- A list of all dates of prior ultrasounds for the current pregnancy
- A diagnosis code for each ultrasound that has been done, starting with number one
- Recipient date of birth and Medicaid number
- HP-Estimated Date of Confinement
- Medical diagnosis to substantiate the ultrasound that is being requested
- Benefit of the ultrasound that is being requested
- Anticipated total number of ultrasounds for the current pregnancy

For patients covered under the Maternity Care Program, refer to Chapter 24, Maternity Care Program. Refer to Chapter 4, Obtaining Prior Authorization, for more information.

## 22.3 Prior Authorization and Referral Requirements

For all MRI's, MRA's, CT scans, CTA's, and PET scans performed on or after March 2, 2009, providers will be required to request prior authorization from MedSolutions. Scans performed as an inpatient hospital service, as an emergency room service, or for Medicaid recipients who are also covered by Medicare are exempt from the PA requirement.

The radiology program applies only to the following Medicaid recipients:

- Those certified as children through the SOBRA (Sixth Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act) Program.
- Those certified through the Medicaid for Low Income Families Program
- Refugees
- Those certified for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Services provided to eligibles certified as follows do not require prior authorization:

- Dual Eligibles (Medicare/Medicaid)
- Plan First Eligible
- SOBRA Adults
- Individuals granted emergency Medicaid due to their illegal alien status

Prior authorization requests for outpatient diagnostic imaging procedures may be made to MedSolutions by phone at (888) 693-3211 or by fax at (888) 693-3210 during normal business hours 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. C.T. Requests can also be submitted through MedSolutions' secure website at [www.MedSolutionsOnline.com](http://www.MedSolutionsOnline.com). Requests by third party companies are not allowed. Only the performing provider (facility) or the referring/ordering provider may request prior authorization from MedSolutions. Prior authorization must be obtained prior to the test being performed. In the event of an urgent situation (when the prior authorization cannot be obtained before the test is performed), a PA may be requested within 14 days from the date of service. The case must then meet the "urgent" criteria before it will be considered for review. Providers are allowed 30 days from the date of service to submit a request to change or add a code to an approved case.

Prior Authorization is required for the following radiology codes:

<b>PET SCANS</b>
78459 Myocardial -metabolic
78491 Myocardial-single-rest/stress
78492 Myocardial, perfusion-mult.
78608 Brain-metabolic
78609 Brain, perfusion
78811 Limited area
78812 Skull base to mid-thigh
78813 Whole body
78814 w/CT; limited area
78815 w/CT skull base to mid-thigh
78816 w/CT whole body

<b>CTA</b>
70496 Head
70498 Neck
71275 Chest (non-coronary)
73206 Upper extremity
73706 Lower extremity
75635 Aortobifemoral runoff
<b>CT</b>
70450 Head/brain w/o contrast
70460 Head/brain w/ contrast
70470 Head/brain w/o & w/contrast
70480 Orbit w/o contrast
70481 Orbit w/ contrast
70482 Orbit w/o & w/contrast
70486 Maxillfcl w/o contrast
70487 Maxillfcl w/ contrast
70488 Maxillfcl w/o & w/contrast
70490 Soft tissue neck w/o contrast
70491 Soft tissue neck w/o, w/contrast
70492 Soft tissue neck w/o & w/contrast
71250 Thorax w/o contrast
71260 Thorax w/contrast
71270 Thorax w/o & w/contrast
72125 C-spine w/o contrast
72126 C-spine w/contrast
72127 C-spine w/o & w/contrast
72128 T-spine w/o contrast
72129 T- spine w/contrast
72130 T-spine w/ & w/o contrast
72131 L-spine w/o contrast
72132 L-spine w/contrast
72133 L-spine w/o & w/ contrast
72192 Pelvis w/o contrast
72193 Pelvis w/contrast
72194 Pelvis w/o & w/ contrast
73200 UE- w/o contrast
73201 UE- w/contrast
73202 UE w/o & with contrast
73700 LE w/o contrast
73701 LE w/ contrast
73702 LE w/o & w/contrast
74150 Abdomen w/o contrast

74160 Abdomen w/contrast
74170 Abdomen w/o & w/contrast
74176 Abdomen & Pelvis w/o contrast
74177 Abdomen & Pelvis with contrast
74178 Abdomen & Pelvis; w/o & w/contrast
75571 Heart w/o contrast. Added: Code 75571-is age restricted 0-18 years; on their 19th birthday they become ineligible.
75572 Heart with contrast. Added: Code 75572 is age restricted 0-18 years; on their 19th birthday they become ineligible
75573 Heart with contrast, in the setting of CHD. Added: Code 75573 is age restricted 0-18 years; on their 19th birthday they become ineligible
75574 Heart CT Angiography. Added: Code 75574 is age restricted 0-18 years; on their 19th birthday they become ineligible
76380 Limited or localized f/u study
76497 Unlisted Computed Tomography procedure

<b>MRA</b>
70544 Head w/o contrast
70545 Head w/contrast
70546 Head w/ & w/o contrast
70547 Neck w/o contrast
70548 Neck w/contrast
70549 Neck w/o & w/contrast
71555 Chest w/ or w/o contrast
72198 Pelvis w/ or w/o contrast
73225 UE w/ or w/o contrast
73725 LE w/ or w/o contrast
74174 CTA, Abdomen and pelvis with contrast
74185 Abdomen w/ or w/o contrast
<b>MRI</b>
70336 TMJ
70540 Face, orbit, &/or neck w/o contrast
70542 Face orbit &/or neck w & w/o cont.
70543 Face, orbit, &/or neck w & w/o cont.
70551 Brain w/o contrast
70552 Brain w/ contrast
70553 Brain w/& w/o contrast
71550 Chest w/o contrast
71551 Chest w/ contrast
71552 Chest w & w/o contrast
72141 C-spine w/o contrast
72142 C-spine w/contrast
72146 T-spine w/o contrast
72147 T-spine w/contrast

72148 L-spine w/o contrast
72149 L spine w/contrast
72156 c-spine w/ & w/o contrast
72157 T-spine w/ & w/o contrast
72158 L-spine w/ & w/o contrast
72195 Pelvis w/o contrast
72196 Pelvis w/ contrast
72197 Pelvis w/&w/o contrast
73218 UE w/o contrast
73219 UE w/contrast
73220 UE w/& w/o contrast
73221 UE joint w/o contrast
73222 UE joint w/contrast
73223 UE joint w/& w/o contrast
73718 LE w/o contrast
73719 LE w/ contrast
73720 LE w/ & w/o contrast
73721 LE joint w/o contrast
73722 LE joint w/ contrast
73723 LE joint w & w/o contrast
74181 Abdomen w/o contrast
74182 Abdomen w/contrast
74183 Abdomen w & w/o contrast
75557 Cardiac w/o contrast
75559 Cardiac w/o contrast,w/stress imag.
75561 Cardiac w & w/o contrast
75563 Cardiac w & w/o contrast,w stress imag.
76498 Unlisted magnetic resonance procedure
77058 Breast w/ & or w/o contrast, unilat.
77059 Breast w/& or w/o contrast, bilat.
77084 Bone marrow blood supply

## 22.4 Cost Sharing (Copayment)

Copayment amount does not apply to services provided by Independent Radiology providers.

## 22.5 Completing the Claim Form

To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Medicaid processing, provider should bill Medicaid claims electronically.

Radiology providers who bill Medicaid claims electronically receive the following benefits:

- Quicker claim processing turnaround
- Immediate claim correction
- Enhanced online adjustment functions
- Improved access to eligibility information

Refer to Appendix B, Electronic Media Claims Guidelines, for more information about electronic filing.

### NOTE:

When filing a claim on paper, a CMS-1500 claim form is required. Medicare-related claims must be filed using the Medical Medicaid/Medicare-related Claim Form.

This section describes program-specific claims information. Refer to Chapter 5, Filing Claims, for general claims filing information and instructions.

### 22.5.1 Time Limit for Filing Claims

Medicaid requires all claims for Independent Radiology providers to be filed within one year of the date of service. Refer to Section 5.1.4, Filing Limits, for more information regarding timely filing limits and exceptions.

### 22.5.2 Diagnosis Codes

For dates of service 01/01/99 and after, valid diagnosis codes **are required**. The International Classification of Diseases - 9<sup>th</sup> Revision - Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) manual lists Medicaid required diagnosis codes. These manuals may be obtained by contacting the American Medical Association, P. O. Box 10950, Chicago, IL 60610.

For dates of service prior to 01/01/99, Independent Radiology providers are not required to provide valid diagnosis codes. Providers must bill diagnosis code V729 on hard copy and electronically submitted claims.

### NOTE:

ICD-9 diagnosis codes must be listed to the highest number of digits possible (3, 4, or 5 digits). Do not use decimal points in the diagnosis code field.

### 22.5.3 Procedure Codes and Modifiers

Radiology providers use the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) coding system. The CPT manual lists most required procedure codes. This manual may be obtained by contacting the Order Department, American Medical Association, 515 North State Street, Chicago, IL 60610-9986.

Radiology Facilities are limited to billing CPT radiology procedure codes. The range of codes is 70010 through 79999. Physiological labs are **restricted** to the codes listed in their contract with Medicaid.

The (837) Professional, Institutional and Dental electronic claims and the paper claim have been modified to accept up to four Procedure Code Modifiers.

**Professional and Technical Components**

Some procedure codes in the 70000, 80000, 90000, and G series are a combination of a professional component and a technical component. Therefore, these codes may be billed three different ways; (1) as a global, (2) as a professional component, or (3) as a technical component.

- **Global**, the provider must own the equipment, pay the technician, review the results, and provide a written report of the findings. The procedure code is billed with no modifiers.
- **Professional component**, the provider does not own the equipment. The provider operates the equipment and/or reviews the results, and provides a written report of the findings. The Radiological professional component is billed by adding modifier 26 to the procedure code, and should be billed only for the following place of service locations:
  - 21 (inpatient)
  - 22 (outpatient)
  - 23 (emergency room - hospital)
  - 24 (ambulatory surgical center)
  - 32 (nursing facility)
  - 51 (inpatient psychiatric facility)
  - 61 (comprehensive inpatient rehab facility)
  - 62 (comprehensive outpatient rehab facility)
  - 65 (end stage renal disease facility)
- **Technical component**, the provider must own the equipment, but does not review and document the results. The technical component charges are the facility’s charges and are not billed separately by physicians. The technical component is billed by adding modifier TC to the procedure code.

**22.5.4 Place of Service Codes**

The following place of service code applies when filing claims for radiology services:

<i>POS Code</i>	<i>Description</i>
11	Clinic

**22.5.5 Required Attachments**

To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Medicaid processing, your attachments should be limited to claims with third party denials.

**NOTE:**

When an attachment is required, a hard copy CMS-1500 claim form must be submitted.

Refer to Section 5.7, Required Attachments, for more information on attachments.

## 22.6 For More Information

This section contains a cross-reference to other relevant sections in the manual.

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Where to Find It</b>
CMS-1500 Claim Filing Instructions	Section 5.2
Medical Medicaid/Medicare-related Claim Filing Instructions	Section 5.6.1
Electronic Media Claims (EMC) Submission Guidelines	Appendix B
AVRS Quick Reference Guide	Appendix L
Alabama Medicaid Contact Information	Appendix N

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