

Radiology 2020 CPT Updates Effective 1/1/2020

Each year the American Medical Association's CPT-4 code manual is revised to delete codes and/or guidelines, and to add or revise codes to reflect current technologies, techniques, and services. As a service to our radiology clients, APS Medical Billing has summarized those changes to facilitate accurate reporting of the affected services as of January 1, 2020. A number of new radiology CPT codes have been approved for implementation in 2020.

Below we have outlined the changes made. All new codes are highlighted in red and revised/deleted codes are noted:

Gastrointestinal

Deleted Codes for 2020:

- 74241 Radiologic examination, gastrointestinal tract, upper; with or without delayed images, with KUB
- 74245 Radiologic examination, gastrointestinal tract, upper; with small intestine, includes multiple serial images
- 74247 Radiological examination, gastrointestinal tract, upper, air contrast, with specific high density barium, effervescent agent, with or without glucagon; with or without delayed images, with KUB
- 74260 Radiological examination, gastrointestinal tract, upper, air contrast, with specific high density barium, effervescent agent, with or without glucagon; with small intestine follow-through

New Codes for 2020:

- 74221 Radiologic examination, esophagus, including scout chest radiograph(s) and delayed image(s), when performed; double-contrast (eg, high-density barium and effervescent agent) study
- 74248 Radiologic small intestine follow-through study, including multiple serial images (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure for upper GI radiologic examination)

Revised Codes for 2020:

74210 Radiologic examination, pharynx and/or cervical esophagus, including scout neck radiograph(s) and delayed image(s), when performed, contrast (eg, barium) study



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- 74220 Radiologic examination, esophagus, including scout chest radiograph(s) and delayed image(s), when performed; single-contrast (eg, barium) study
- 74230 Radiologic examination, swallowing function, with cineradiography/videoradiography, including scout neck radiograph(s) and delayed image(s), when performed, contrast (eg, barium) study
- 74240 Radiologic examination, upper gastrointestinal tract, including scout abdominal radiograph(s) and delayed image(s), when performed; single-contrast (eg, barium) study
- 74246 Radiologic examination, upper gastrointestinal tract, including scout abdominal radiograph(s) and delayed image(s), when performed; double-contrast (eg, high-density barium and effervescent agent) study, including glucagon, when administered
- 74250 Radiologic examination, small intestine, including multiple serial images and scout abdominal radiograph(s), when performed; single-contrast (eg, barium) study
- 74251 Radiologic examination, small intestine, including multiple serial images and scout abdominal radiograph(s), when performed; double-contrast (eg, high-density barium and air via enteroclysis tube) study, including glucagon, when administered
- 74270 Radiologic examination, colon, including scout abdominal radiograph(s) and delayed image(s), when performed; single-contrast (eg, barium) study
- 74280 Radiologic examination, colon, including scout abdominal radiograph(s) and delayed image(s), when performed; double-contrast (eg, high density barium and air) study, including glucagon, when administered

Nuclear Medicine

Deleted Codes for 2020:

- 78205 Liver imaging (SPECT)
- 78206 Liver imaging (SPECT); with vascular flow
- 78320 Bone and/or joint imaging; tomographic (SPECT)
- 78607 Brain imaging, tomographic (SPECT)
- 78647 Cerebrospinal fluid flow, imaging (not including introduction of material); tomographic (SPECT)
- 78710 Kidney imaging morphology; tomographic (SPECT) **All of the above codes will now code to 78803**
- 78805 Radiopharmaceutical localization of inflammatory process; limited area
- 78806 Radiopharmaceutical localization of inflammatory process; whole body
- 78807 Radiopharmaceutical localization of inflammatory process; tomographic (SPECT)

New Codes for 2020:

78429 Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET), metabolic evaluation study (including ventricular wall motion[s] and/or ejection fraction[s], when performed), single study; with concurrently acquired computed tomography transmission scan



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- **78430** Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET), perfusion study (including ventricular wall motion[s] and/or ejection fraction[s], when performed); single study, at rest or stress (exercise or pharmacologic), with concurrently acquired computed tomography transmission scan
- 78431 Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET), perfusion study (including ventricular wall motion[s] and/or ejection fraction[s], when performed); multiple studies at rest and stress (exercise or pharmacologic), with concurrently acquired computed tomography transmission scan
- 78432 Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET), combined perfusion with metabolic evaluation study (including ventricular wall motion[s] and/or ejection fraction[s], when performed), dual radiotracer (eg, myocardial viability)
- 78433 Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET), combined perfusion with metabolic evaluation study (including ventricular wall motion[s] and/or ejection fraction[s], when performed), dual radiotracer (eg, myocardial viability); with concurrently acquired computed tomography transmission scan
- 78434 Absolute quantitation of myocardial blood flow (AQMBF), positron emission tomography (PET), rest and pharmacologic stress (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
- 78459 Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET), metabolic evaluation study (including ventricular wall motion[s] and/or ejection fraction[s], when performed), single study
- 78491 Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET), perfusion study (including ventricular wall motion[s] and/or ejection fraction[s], when performed); single study, at rest or stress (exercise or pharmacologic)
- 78492 Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET), perfusion study (including ventricular wall motion[s] and/or ejection fraction[s], when performed); multiple studies at rest and stress (exercise or pharmacologic)
- 78830 Radiopharmaceutical localization of tumor, inflammatory process or distribution of radiopharmaceutical agent(s) (includes vascular flow and blood pool imaging, when performed); tomographic (SPECT) with concurrently acquired computed tomography (CT) transmission scan for anatomical review, localization and determination/detection of pathology, single area (eg, head, neck, chest, pelvis), single day imaging
- **78831** Radiopharmaceutical localization of tumor, inflammatory process or distribution of radiopharmaceutical agent(s) (includes vascular flow and blood pool imaging, when performed); tomographic (SPECT), minimum 2 areas (eg, pelvis and knees, abdomen and pelvis), single day imaging, or single area imaging over 2 or more days
- 78832 Radiopharmaceutical localization of tumor, inflammatory process or distribution of radiopharmaceutical agent(s) (includes vascular flow and blood pool imaging, when performed); tomographic (SPECT) with concurrently acquired computed tomography (CT) transmission scan for anatomical review, localization and determination/detection of pathology, minimum 2 areas (eg, pelvis and knees, abdomen and pelvis), single day imaging, or single area imaging over 2 or more days
- 78835 Radiopharmaceutical quantification measurement(s) single area (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)



Revised Codes for 2020:

- 78800 Radiopharmaceutical localization of tumor, inflammatory process or distribution of radiopharmaceutical agent(s) (includes vascular flow and blood pool imaging, when performed); planar, single area (eg, head, neck, chest, pelvis), single day imaging
- 78801 Radiopharmaceutical localization of tumor, inflammatory process or distribution of radiopharmaceutical agent(s) (includes vascular flow and blood pool imaging, when performed); planar, 2 or more areas (eg, abdomen and pelvis, head and chest), 1 or more days imaging or single area imaging over 2 or more days
- 78802 Radiopharmaceutical localization of tumor, inflammatory process or distribution of radiopharmaceutical agent(s) (includes vascular flow and blood pool imaging, when performed); planar, whole body, single day imaging
- 78803 Radiopharmaceutical localization of tumor, inflammatory process or distribution of radiopharmaceutical agent(s) (includes vascular flow and blood pool imaging, when performed); tomographic (SPECT), single area (eg, head, neck, chest, pelvis), single day imaging
- 78804 Radiopharmaceutical localization of tumor, inflammatory process or distribution of radiopharmaceutical agent(s) (includes vascular flow and blood pool imaging, when performed); planar, whole body, requiring 2 or more days imaging

Interventional Radiology/Procedures

New Codes for 2020:

- **20561** Needle insertion(s) without injection(s); 3 or more muscles
- 62328 Spinal puncture, lumbar, diagnostic; with fluoroscopic or CT guidance
- 62329 Spinal puncture, therapeutic, for drainage of cerebrospinal fluid (by needle or catheter); with fluoroscopic or CT guidance
- 64451 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; nerves innervating the sacroiliac joint, with image guidance (i.e., fluoroscopy or computed tomography)
- 64625 Radiofrequency ablation, nerves innervating the sacroiliac joint, with image guidance (i.e., fluoroscopy or computed tomography)

Revised Codes for 2020:

- 62270 Spinal puncture, lumbar, diagnostic
- 62272 Spinal puncture, therapeutic, for drainage of cerebrospinal fluid (by needle or catheter)
- 64400 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; trigeminal nerve, each branch (i.e., ophthalmic, maxillary, mandibular)
- 64405 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; greater occipital nerve
- 64408 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; vagus nerve



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- 64415 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; brachial plexus
- 64416 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; brachial plexus, continuous infusion by catheter (including catheter placement)
- 64417 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; axillary nerve
- 64418 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; suprascapular nerve
- 64420 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; intercostal nerve, single level
- 64421 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; intercostal nerve, each additional level (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
- 64425 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; ilioinguinal, iliohypogastric nerves
- 64430 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; pudendal nerve
- 64435 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; paracervical (uterine) nerve
- 64445 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; sciatic nerv
- 64446 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; sciatic nerve, continuous infusion by catheter (including catheter placement)
- 64447 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; femoral nerve
- 64448 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; femoral nerve, continuous infusion by catheter (including catheter placement)
- 64449 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; lumbar plexus, posterior approach, continuous infusion by catheter (including catheter placement)
- 64450 Injection(s), anesthetic agent(s) and/or steroid; other peripheral nerve or branch

The following resources were used in the preparation of this document: the AMA's *Current Procedural Terminology* (CPT) 2020, and CPT 2020 Changes-An Insider's View.