Radiation therapy codes

Summary: During the December 2015 and January 2016 reference file updates, procedure codes G6003, G6007 and G6011 were Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) only; the other codes in the range of G6001-G6017 were noncovered. This action inadvertently was not followed up with a publication to notify providers of this change, and claims began to deny as expected. This resulted in the MCOs recouping claims previously paid using these codes. This policy addendum will reinstate coverage of G6001-G6017 with the exception of G6003, G6007 and G6011 and allow providers to be reimbursed for medically necessary services.

For claims processing dates on and after February 1, 2017, and retroactive to dates of service on and after March 1, 2016, coverage of the following radiation therapy codes are reinstated to all covered benefit plans. In addition, physicians and acute care hospitals can be reimbursed for these codes.

- G6001 — ultrasonic guidance for placement of radiation therapy fields
- G6002 — stereoscopic X-ray guidance for localization of target volume for the delivery of radiation therapy
- G6004 — radiation treatment delivery, single treatment area, single port or parallel-opposed ports, simple blocks or not blocks (6-10 MeV)
- G6005 — radiation treatment delivery, single treatment area, single port or parallel-opposed ports, simple blocks or not blocks (11-19 MeV)
- G6006 — radiation treatment delivery, single treatment area, single port or parallel-opposed ports, simple blocks or not blocks (20 MeV or greater)
- G6008 — radiation treatment delivery, without separate treatment areas, three or more ports on a single treatment area, use of multiple blocks (6-10 MeV)
- G6009 — radiation treatment delivery, two separate treatment areas, three or more ports on a single treatment area, use of multiple blocks (11-19 MeV)
- G6010 — radiation treatment delivery, two separate treatment areas, three or more ports on a single treatment area, use of multiple blocks (20 MeV or greater)
- G6012 — radiation treatment delivery, three or more separate treatment areas, custom blocking, tangential ports, wedges, rotational beam, compensators, electron beam (6-10 MeV)
- G6013 — radiation treatment delivery, three or more separate treatment areas, custom blocking, tangential ports, wedges, rotational beam, compensators, electron beam (up to 11-19 MeV)
- G6014 — radiation treatment delivery, three or more separate treatment areas, custom blocking, tangential ports, wedges, rotational beam, compensators, electron beam (20 MeV or greater)
- G6015 — intensity modulated treatment delivery, single or multiple fields/arcs, via narrow spatially and temporary modulated beams, binary, dynamic multileaf collimator (per treatment session)
• G6016 — compensator-based beam modulation treatment delivery of inverse planned treatment using three or more high resolution (milled or cast) compensator, convergent beam modulated fields (per treatment session)
• G6017 — intrafraction localization and track of target or patient motion during delivery or radiation therapy (e.g., 3-D positional tracking, gating, 3-D surface tracking) (each fraction of treatment)

Previously denied claims will be reprocessed for payment without the need for provider intervention.

What if I need assistance?
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