



COVERAGE GUIDELINES

F18 FDG PET/CT SCAN

CANCER TYPE	CPT*	CLINICAL INDICATIONS
Brain, Breast, Head & Neck (inc. thyroid), Carcinoid / Neuroendocrine, Cervical, Colorectal, Lung, Lymphoma, Ovarian, Pancreas, Prostate, Other Solid Tumors	78815 A9552	All cancers are covered for initial staging and restaging. In some cases, cancer is covered for diagnosis, depending on the health plan. Most cancers are NOT covered for "surveillance".
Melanoma, Myeloma, Sarcoma	78816 A9552	
* Brain Metabolism	78608 A9552	FTD vs. Alzheimer's dementia
Medicare covers for inflammation and infection	78815 A9552	Osteomyelitis, prosthetic joint infection, fever of unknown origin

Non-FDG PET/CT Scans

SPECIALTY SCAN	CPT*	CLINICAL INDICATIONS
PET/CT w/PSMA	78815 A9595	Covered for initial staging and restaging prostate cancer.
PET/CT w/Cerianna	78815 A9591	Covered for restaging ER+ breast cancer
PET/CT w/Dotatate	78815 A9587	Covered for staging and restaging carcinoid/neuroendocrine tumors
PET/CT Brain Amyloid	78814 A9586	Covered under clinical trial or special authorization

*Both CPT codes are required for all authorizations.



PAYER SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

PAYER	UTILIZATION GUIDELINES	NOTE
Aetna	eviCore	Auth Required
Anthem Blue Cross	Carelton (formerly AIM)	Auth Required
Blue Shield	NIA	Auth Required
Cigna	eviCore	Auth Required
TriWest	Health Net Fed Services	Auth Required
United Healthcare	eviCore	Auth Required
Medicare	Medicare	No Auth Required **Must Meet Medicare Guidelines
Medicare Advantage	By Payer or Medical Group	Auth Required Plan designates auth organization
Medi-Cal	Medi-Cal	TAR/Auth Required Follows Medicare Guidelines
Medi-Cal GMC	By Payer or Medical Group	Auth Required Plan designates auth organization

The private Utilization groups have varied guidelines. Please call us for any assistance you may need.

- NCPIC can obtain the appropriate authorization for most of the payers. You will be notified immediately if the authorization process needs to be shifted to the referring physician office.
- Some private payers require other advanced diagnostic imaging (CT or MRI) prior to a PET/CT scan
- All payers, including Medicare, **do not cover PET/CT for routine surveillance**. A patient should present with new signs or symptoms associated with a suspected recurrence.
- If a PET/CT scan is deemed clinically indicated by the referring physician, but is **non-covered**, your patient can pay for the scan outside of their insurance coverage at our discounted cash rates.

For authorization questions, contact Chanel at **916 378 5543**.

*Both CPT codes are required for all authorizations.