

# Study Guide: Radiology (70000) Codes

Med Claim Pro

# Study Guide: Radiology Codes

Radiology is a critical medical specialty that uses advanced imaging techniques to diagnose and treat diseases. Radiologists rely on various methods, including X-ray, Computed Tomography (CT), CT Angiography (CTA), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), MR Angiography (MRA), Ultrasound, Nuclear Medicine, and Positron Emission Tomography (PET), to deliver accurate diagnoses and effective treatment plans.

# Understanding different healthcare imaging types:

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X-Ray

CT Scan

MRI

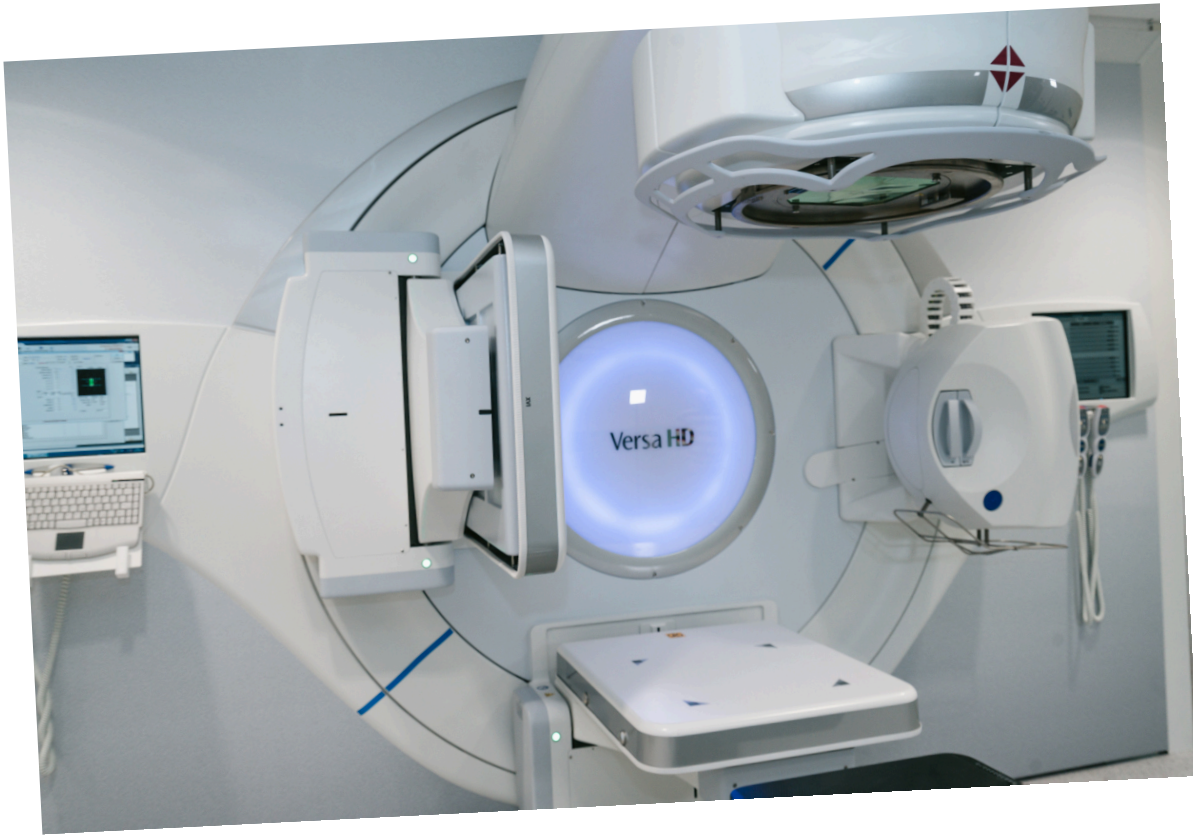
Ultrasound

# X-Ray



An X-Ray, also called a radiograph, captures images in black and white by sending radiation through the body. More dense areas and areas containing a lot of calcium block the radiation, making those areas appear white on the image. Softer tissues allow varying amounts of the radiation through and appear gray-black on the images.





# CT Scan

A CT Scan, or computer tomography scan, is similar to an X-Ray in that it captures images by sending radiation through the body. However, CT Scans offer much more detail, capturing "slices" of X-Ray type images to create 3D, 360-degree images of the body's structures.

# MRI



An MRI, or magnetic resonance imaging, does not use radiation. Instead, it uses a large, powerful magnet to pass radio waves through your body. Essentially, water molecules in your body react to the magnetic field to create signals that are turned into images. Like CT Scans, MRIs produce "slices" of images that can be combined to create 3D images of the body's structures, however, given the different method, it can capture different things.

# Ultrasound



An Ultrasound is an imaging method that uses sound waves to create images of structures inside your body.

# Typical Radiology CPT Codes

Diagnostic Radiology (Diagnostic Imaging): 70010-76499

Diagnostic Ultrasound: 76506-76999

Radiologic Guidance: 77001-77022

Breast Mammography: 77046-77067

Bone/Joint Studies: 77071-77086

Radiation Oncology: 77261-77799

Nuclear Medicine: 78012-79999



# Diagnostic Radiology (Diagnostic Imaging) 70010-76499

The CPT code range "70010-76499" refers to "Diagnostic Radiology" or "Diagnostic Imaging" procedures, meaning this range encompasses codes for various imaging tests like X-rays, CT scans, and MRIs used to diagnose medical conditions across different body areas, including head, chest, abdomen, and extremities; essentially, any diagnostic imaging procedure performed in a radiology department falls under this code range.

Key points about this code range:

Meaning:

These codes are used to bill for diagnostic imaging procedures that help healthcare providers diagnose diseases and conditions by providing detailed anatomical images.

Examples of procedures included:

Plain X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, angiography, myelography, ultrasound (depending on specific code within the range).

Code breakdown:

Within this range, individual codes are further categorized by the body part being examined and the specific imaging technique used.

# Diagnostic Ultrasound: 76506-76999

76506-76999 is the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code range for diagnostic ultrasound procedures. These codes cover a variety of ultrasound procedures that use sound waves to create images of internal body parts.

Examples of ultrasound procedures in this code range:

76506-76536: Ultrasound of the head and neck

76604-76642: Ultrasound of the chest

76700-76776: Ultrasound of the abdomen and retroperitoneum

76801-76857: Ultrasound of the pelvis

76870-76873: Ultrasound of the genitalia

76881-76886: Ultrasound of the extremities

76932-76965: Ultrasound guidance for medical interventions

76975-76999: Other ultrasound procedures

Use of these codes:

These procedures are generally safe and non-invasive.

They can be used to help diagnose a variety of conditions.

Each code may have specific requirements and indications for use.

Reimbursement rates for these codes may vary based on a number of factors.

# Radiologic Guidance: 77001-77022

77001-77022 are the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes for radiologic guidance. These codes are used when a radiologist uses imaging techniques to guide procedures like biopsies, injections, and needle placements.

77001-77003 Fluoroscopic guidance:

77001: Fluoroscopic guidance for needle placement

77002: Fluoroscopic guidance for central venous access device placement

77003: Fluoroscopic guidance for vascular access

77011-77014 Computed tomography (CT) guidance

77011: CT guidance for needle placement

77012: CT guidance for radiation therapy field placement

77014: CT guidance for stereotactic localization

77021-77022 Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) guidance

77021: MRI guidance for radiation therapy field placement

77022: Ultrasound guidance for intraoperative procedures

# Breast Mammography: 77046-77067

77067:

The most common CPT code for breast mammography screenings. Used for a bilateral screening mammogram that includes computer-aided detection (CAD).

CAD helps identify suspicious areas in the breast.

Other breast imaging codes

77065: Used for diagnostic mammography

77066: Used for screening mammography that converts to diagnostic mammography

G0202: Used for screening mammography, bilateral, including CAD

G0204: Used for diagnostic mammography, including CAD, bilateral

G0206: Used for diagnostic mammography, including CAD, unilateral

Breast imaging procedures:

Breast imaging may include diagnostic breast ultrasound, MRI of the breast, or digital mammography.

Mammography is an important tool for early detection of breast cancer.

Diagnostic mammography may be indicated if there are signs or symptoms of malignancy.



## Bone/Joint Studies: 77071-77086

77071:

A stress X-ray of a joint or bone.

Used to assess joint or bone stability and integrity.

Helps diagnose injuries like ligament tears or joint instability.

Often used in orthopedic assessments.

77086:

Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) bone density study.

Performed on the axial skeleton, including the hips, pelvis, and spine.

May include vertebral fracture assessment.

# Radiation Oncology: 77261-77799

77261-77299:

This code range is for clinical treatment planning for radiation treatment.

This includes external and internal sources of radiation.

Some key codes in this range include:

77261: Simple radiation treatment planning

77262: Complex radiation treatment planning

77263: IMRT radiation treatment planning

77280: Proton radiation treatment planning

77750-77799:

This code range is for clinical brachytherapy radiation treatment.

Some key codes in this range include:

77750: Remote afterloading high dose rate radionuclide brachytherapy

77761: Simple interstitial or intracavitary brachytherapy

77762: Complex interstitial or intracavitary brachytherapy

# Radiation Oncology: 77261-77799 (Continued)

Additional radiation oncology CPT codes:

77300-77370: Medical radiation physics, dosimetry, treatment devices, and special services

77371-77387: Stereotactic radiation treatment delivery

77401-77417: Radiation treatment delivery

77423-77425: Neutron beam treatment delivery

# Nuclear Medicine: 78012-79999

78012-79999 are Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes for nuclear medicine procedures. These codes are used to document the technical aspects of nuclear medicine procedures, such as the equipment and methods used.

## What are nuclear medicine procedures?

- Nuclear medicine is a medical specialty that uses radioactive tracers to diagnose and treat disease.
- Procedures in this range include PET scans, bone scans, thyroid scans, and cardiac stress tests



# MRI CPT Codes

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a sophisticated imaging technique used for detailed analysis of soft tissues.

Common MRI CPT codes include:

70551-70553: Brain and neck MRI.

72141-72158: Spine imaging.

73221-73223: Upper extremity imaging (e.g., shoulder).

73721-73723: Lower extremity imaging (e.g., knee).

74181-74183: MRI of the abdomen and pelvis.

To document these codes accurately, coders must provide detailed information about the procedure, including contrast use and laterality.

# References



## Understand the Basics of Radiology Billing Codes

In this article, we shared how this code range for radiology billing codes is sub-divided and the importance of every sub-division.

 MBC Medical Billing and Coding Blogs / Apr 4, 2023



## CPT® Code - Bone/Joint Studies 77071-77092 - Codify by AAPC

The Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code range for Bone/Joint Studies 77071-77092 is a...

 aapc.com

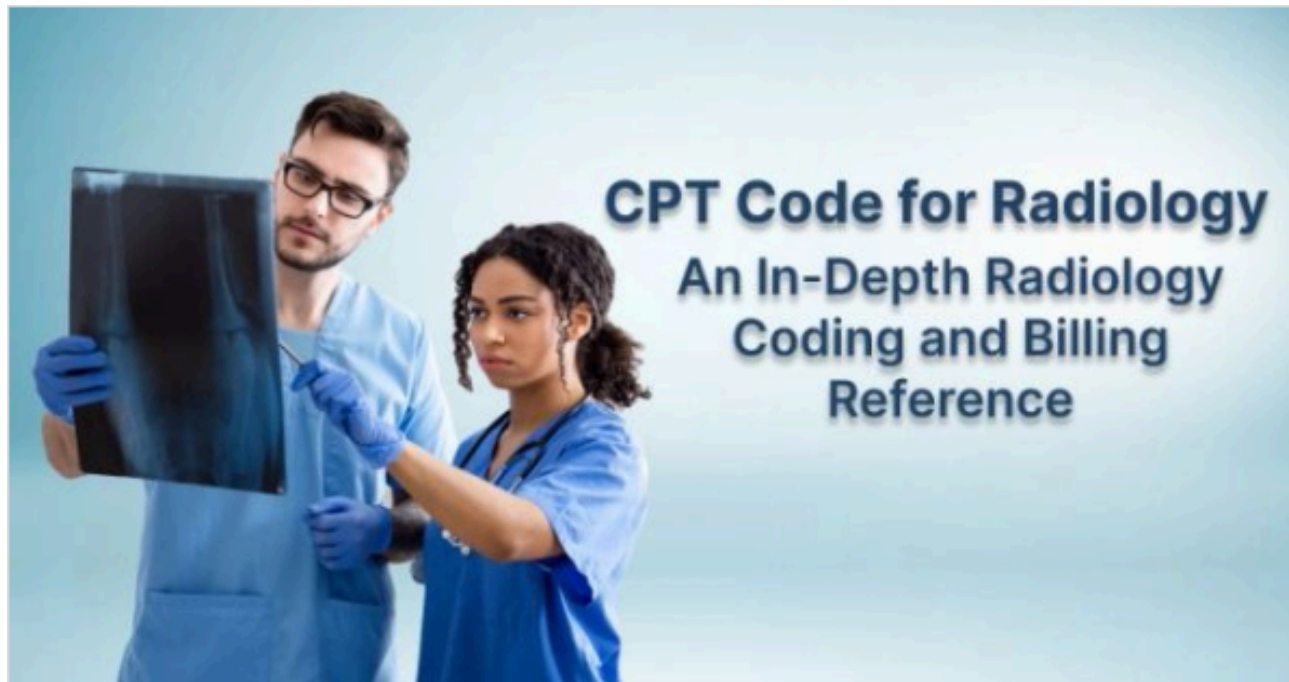


## Understanding 77067 CPT Code For Mammography

Delve into the essentials of 77067 CPT code for mammography screening. Ensure accurate billing and understand reimbursement guidelines.

 Medical Bill Gurus / Jan 5, 2024

# References



## **Radiology CPT Codes: Your Essential Guide**

Explore radiology CPT codes for accurate billing and healthcare documentation. Learn about diagnostic procedures, ultrasound, and radiation therapy codes

 iRCM Inc / Oct 6, 2023



## **Ultrasound CPT Code - 2022**

The CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) code range for Diagnostic Ultrasound Procedures 76506 - 76999 is a medical code set that is maintained by the AMA

 The Ultrasound Source / Jan 30, 2023