



Coding Essentials for Low and High Dose Treatment for Non-Cancerous and Benign Conditions

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Notes



When a third-party payer is involved, the determination of reimbursement for services is the decision of the individual insurance company based on the patient's policy and the third-party payer guidelines. No guidance can adequately address reimbursement issues for the hundreds of insurance payers that exist. Efforts have been made to ensure the information was valid at the date of presentation. Reimbursement policies vary from insurer to insurer and the policies of the same payer may vary within different U.S. regions. All policies should be verified to ensure compliance. Therefore, it is essential that each payer be contacted for their individual requirements.




The websites listed in this presentation are current and valid as of the date of this presentation. However, webpage addresses and the information on them may change or disappear at any time and for any number of reasons. The attendee is encouraged to confirm or locate any URLs listed here that are no longer valid.



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High Complexity

Stereotactic, IMRT, 3D Conformal



Low Complexity

2D Photon, Electrons, Superficial/Orthovoltage

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Noridian Healthcare Solutions Local Coverage Determination (LCD): Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) (L34080):

“ IMRT is not a replacement therapy for conventional and 3-D conformal radiation therapy methods. IMRT is considered reasonable and necessary in instances where sparing the surrounding normal tissue is essential and the patient has at least one of the following conditions met:

- Important **dose limiting structures** adjacent to, but outside the PTV, are sufficiently close and require IMRT to assure safety and morbidity reduction.
- An immediately adjacent volume has been irradiated and abutting portals must be established with high precision.
- Gross Tumor Volume (GTV) margins are concave or convex and in close proximity to critical structures that must be protected to avoid unacceptable morbidity.
- Only IMRT techniques would decrease the probability of grade 2 or grade 3 **radiation toxicity** as compared to conventional radiation in greater than 15% of radiated similar cases.”

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In both a 3D conformal plan (CPT® 77295) and teletherapy isodose plan (CPT® 77306-77307), a CT simulation, contouring the target, multiple beam angles, rotational beams, wedges, and blocks can be used. **The analysis of a DVH is what differentiates a complex plan from a 3D plan.**



*-Coding Manual Radiation Oncology
eviCore Healthcare*

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High Complexity Examples

- Functional neurologic disorders
 - Trigeminal neuralgia
 - Arteriovenous malformations
- Benign intracranial tumors
 - Meningioma
 - Acoustic neuroma
 - Pituitary adenoma

1
SRS

2
Fractionated
SRS

3
IMRT

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3D Conformal Potential Charges

- ✓ 3D Plan: 77295
- ✓ Calculation(s): 77300
- ✓ Treatment Device(s): 77332-77334
- ✓ Respiratory Motion Management: 77293

- **77295 Guidelines:**
 - Requires target volume and critical structure(s)
 - One per volume per course (*Exception SRS/SBRT allows only 1 per episode of care*)
- **77300 Guidelines:**
 - One per unique monitor unit calculation or shot (*Payers may cap the quantity at 10 units*)
- **77332 - 77334 Guidelines:**
 - Level of service based on customization or complexity of device(s)
 - One device is billable per port and billed at highest level of complexity supported
- **77293 Guidelines:**
 - Requires 4DCT and development of ITV
 - Billed on same date as 77295 (*if applicable*)

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IMRT Potential Charges

- ✓ IMRT Plan: 77301
- ✓ Secondary Calculation(s): 77300
- ✓ Treatment Device(s): 77338 (MLC) or 77334 (Compensator)
- ✓ Respiratory Motion Management: 77293

- **77301 Guidelines:**
 - Requires target volume and critical structure(s)
 - Inverse planning per defined goals and dose constraints
 - One per volume per course (*Exception SRS/SBRT allows only 1 per episode of care*)
 - Requires beam QA prior to start of treatment delivery
- **77300 Guidelines:**
 - One per unique **secondary** monitor unit calculation (*Payers may cap the quantity at 10 units*)
- **77338 Guidelines:**
 - Billable in a unit of one per IMRT plan
- **77293 Guidelines:**
 - Requires 4DCT and development of ITV
 - Billed on same date as 77301 (*if applicable*)

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Low Complexity Examples

- Proliferative / fibrotic conditions
 - Keloids
 - Heterotopic ossification
- Musculoskeletal disorders
 - Dupuytren’s contracture
 - Ledderhose disease
 - Peyronie’s disease
 - Plantar fasciitis
 - Osteoarthritis

1
2D Photon

2
Electron

3
Superficial /
Orthovoltage

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2D Photon Isodose Planning *Potential Charges*

- ✓ Isodose Plan: 77306 or 77307
- ✓ Treatment Device(s): 77332-77334

• 77306 / 77307 Guidelines:

- One isodose plan may be billed per course for a specific treatment area
- Level of service based on number of sites and beam parameters
- Includes monitor unit calculations

• 77332 - 77334 Guidelines:

- Level of service based on customization or complexity of device
- One device is billable per port and billed at highest level of complexity supported
- Mirrored devices considered one billable pair

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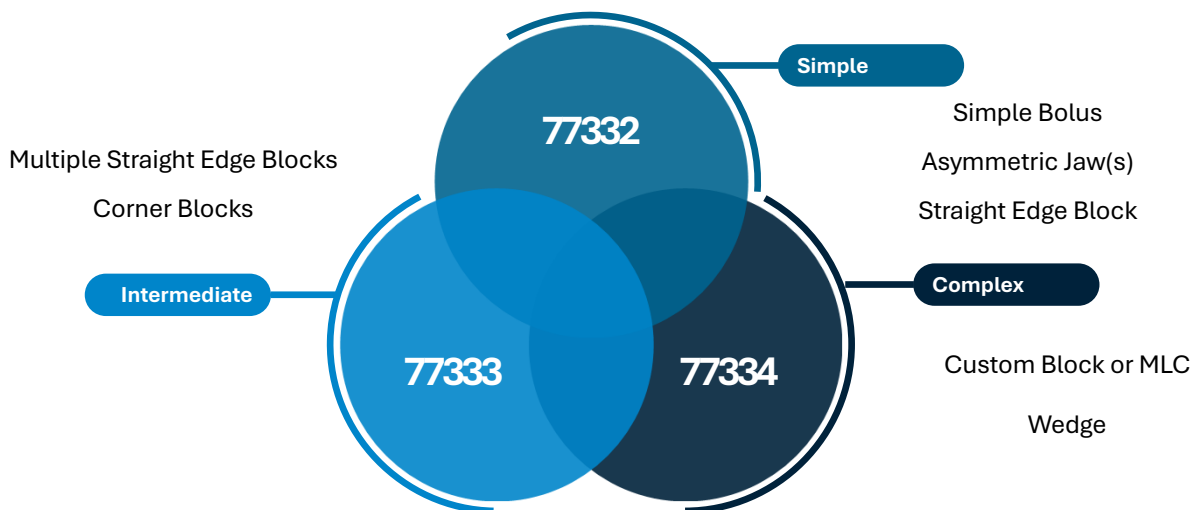
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Photon Isodose Planning

Billing	CPT® Code	Definition
G	77306	Teletherapy isodose plan; simple (1 or 2 unmodified ports directed to a single area of interest), includes basic dosimetry calculation(s)
	77307	Teletherapy isodose plan; complex (multiple treatment areas, tangential ports, the use of wedges, blocking, rotational beam, or special beam considerations), includes basic dosimetry calculations(s)

Beam Modification Devices



Clinical Examples in Radiology Summer 2009



A custom shielding block is one that has been specifically designed in its shape to follow natural and normal anatomic boundaries rather than a simple square or circular geometric lines.



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2D Electron Isodose Planning *Potential Charges*

- ✓ Isodose Plan: 77321
- ✓ Treatment Device(s): 77332 or 77334

• 77321 Guidelines:

- Requires development of an electron isodose plan
- One electron isodose plan may be billed per course
- Includes monitor unit calculations

• 77332 or 77334 Guidelines:

- Level of service based on customization
- One device is billable per port and billed at highest level of complexity supported
- Billed on date of design

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Electron Isodose Planning

Billing	CPT® Code	Definition
G	77321	Special teletherapy port plan, particles, hemibody, total body i.e., protons, neutrons and electrons <i>(Do not bill 77300 in conjunction with 77321 per AMA)</i>

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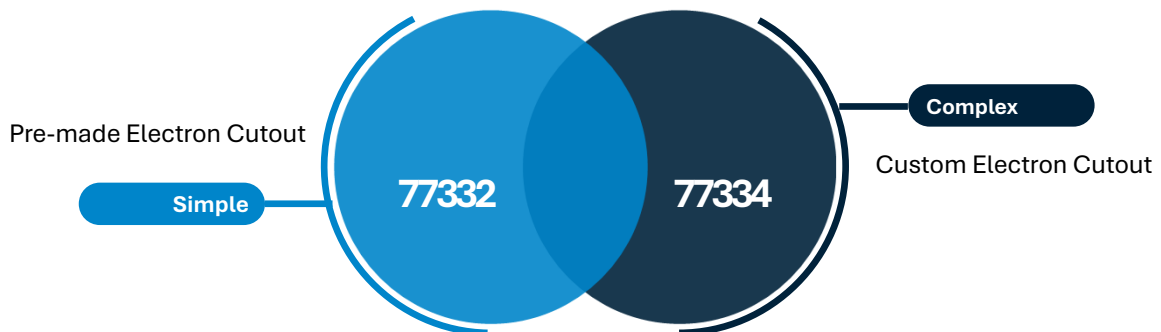
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


Beam Modification Devices



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Photon / Electron Calculation Only *Potential Charges*

- ✓ Calculation: 77300
- ✓ Treatment Device(s): 77332-77334

• **77300 Guidelines:**

- One per unique monitor unit calculation performed and documented, i.e. hand calculation

• **77332 - 77334 Guidelines:**

- Level of service based on customization
- One device is billable per port and billed at highest level of complexity supported
- Billed on date of design



Basic Dosimetry Calculation

Billing	CPT® Code	Definition
	77300	Basic radiation dosimetry calculation, central axis depth dose calculation, TDF, NSD, gap calculation, off axis factor, tissue inhomogeneity factors, calculation of non-ionizing radiation surface and depth dose, as required during course of treatment, only when prescribed by the treating physician

2026 Evolent Radiation Oncology Coding Standards



CPT® code 77300 is approvable for 2DCRT or electrons when hand calculations are performed instead of an Isodose Plan.



Superficial / Orthovoltage Potential Charges

No billable planning charges based on CPT® guidelines

“SRT should not be reported in conjunction with megavoltage (77402, 77407, 77412). Do not report clinical treatment planning (77261, 77262, 77263), simulation (77280, 77285, 77290, **77295**), basic dosimetry calculation (**77300**), special dosimetry (77331), treatment devices (**77332, 77333, 77334**), isodose planning (**77306, 77307**, 77316, 77317, 77318), or radiation treatment management (77427, 77431, 77432, 77435, 77469, 77470, 77499) in conjunction with 77436, 77437, 77438, 77439.”

-CPT® Manual

