



EVOLENT CLINICAL GUIDELINE 100 FOR URGENT/EMERGENT CRITERIA

Guideline or Policy Number: Evolut_CG_100	<u>Applicable Codes</u>	
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Original Date: November 2009	Last Revised Date: March 2024	Implementation Date: January 2025

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STATEMENT

General Information

It is an expectation that all patients receive care/services from a licensed clinician. All appropriate supporting documentation, including recent pertinent office visit notes, laboratory data, and results of any special testing must be provided. If applicable: All prior relevant imaging results and the reason that alternative imaging cannot be performed must be included in the documentation submitted.

Where a specific clinical indication is not directly addressed in this guideline, medical necessity determination will be made based on widely accepted standard of care criteria. These criteria are supported by evidence-based or peer-reviewed sources such as medical literature, societal guidelines and state/national recommendations.

Purpose

Evolent reviews certain imaging studies for the existence of an urgent/emergent situation. This type of medical necessity review is only conducted for those requests where the date of service has passed (a retrospective review).

INDICATIONS FOR EMERGENT STUDIES

Emergent Studies

The requested study is required to render immediate medical attention needed to prevent loss of life, limb, or risk of significant morbidity/permanent disability.^(1,2)

Conditions that demonstrate immediate medical attention include, **but are not limited to:**

- Conditions that impair bodily functions that support life (airway, breathing & circulation)
- Conditions that are consistent with (or precipitate) any type of shock (e.g., hypovolemic or cardiogenic)
- Conditions that are consistent with a disorder that damages tissue in a substantial fashion (e.g., compartment syndrome or thrombus/embolus)

INDICATIONS FOR URGENT STUDIES

Urgent Studies

For the evaluation of a condition that requires prompt medical intervention to prevent additional consequences to the health/wellbeing of the member. This includes preventing the medical condition from precipitating an emergency situation.⁽¹⁾

Conditions that demonstrate a requirement for prompt medical attention include, **but are not limited to:**

- Any condition that cannot be postponed for a period of time (24 hours) without risking progression to an emergent condition^(3,4,5)
- Any condition that cannot be postponed for a period of time (24 hours) without risking loss of life, limb, or risk of permanent disability^(4,5)

CODING AND STANDARDS

Coding

CPT Codes

Not Applicable for this Guideline.

Applicable Lines of Business

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHIP (Children’s Health Insurance Program)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exchange/Marketplace
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medicaid
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medicare Advantage

BACKGROUND

Urgent/Emergent Situations

The indications below can be applied to all imaging modalities managed by Evolent.

The indications presented herein are not intended to limit the peer clinical reviewer from using his/her independent clinical judgment. A case-by-case evaluation of the member’s clinical presentation should be conducted when determining the presence of an emergent or urgent clinical situation.

POLICY HISTORY

Summary

Date	Summary
March 2024	No significant changes
March 2023	General Information moved to beginning of guideline with added statement on clinical indications not addressed in this guideline



LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE

Guideline Approval

Committee

Reviewed / Approved by Evolent Specialty Clinical Guideline Review Committee

Disclaimer

Evolent Clinical Guidelines do not constitute medical advice. Treating health care professionals are solely responsible for diagnosis, treatment, and medical advice. Evolent uses Clinical Guidelines in accordance with its contractual obligations to provide utilization management. Coverage for services varies for individual members according to the terms of their health care coverage or government program. Individual members' health care coverage may not utilize some Evolent Clinical Guidelines. A list of procedure codes, services or drugs may not be all inclusive and does not imply that a service or drug is a covered or non-covered service or drug. Evolent reserves the right to review and update this Clinical Guideline in its sole discretion. Notice of any changes shall be provided as required by applicable provider agreements and laws or regulations. Members should contact their Plan customer service representative for specific coverage information.

REFERENCES

1. (ESR) E S o R. ESR guidelines for the communication of urgent and unexpected findings. Insights into imaging. 2012; 3: 1-3. 10.1007/s13244-011-0135-y.
2. Chaturvedi A, Vargas D, Ocazonez D. CT for evaluation of acute pericardial emergencies in the ED. Emerg Radiol. 2018; 25: 321-328. 10.1007/s10140-018-1590-2.
3. American Academy of Urgent Care Medicine (AAUCM). What is Urgent Care Medicine? American Academy of Urgent Care Medicine. 2024; Accessed 2024:
4. American College of Emergency Physicians. Emergency Care, Urgent Care — What's The Difference? American College of Emergency Physicians. 2024; Accessed 2024:
5. American College of Emergency Physicians. Emergency Care vs. Urgent Care. American College of Emergency Physicians. 2024; Accessed 2024: