



Blue Shield of California Utilization Review Matrix 2025

The matrix below contains the CPT-4 codes for which Evolent (formerly National Imaging Associates, Inc.) manages on behalf of Blue Shield of California. This matrix is designed to assist in the resolution of claims adjudication and claims questions related to those services authorized by Evolent. The “Allowable Billed Groupings” is meant to outline that if a given procedure is authorized, that any one of the listed procedure codes could be submitted on a claim representing that service. This assumes that the member is eligible at the time of the service, that appropriate re-bundling rules are applied, that the claim includes an appropriate diagnosis code for the CPT code and that the service is performed within the validity period.

If a family of CPT codes is not listed in this matrix, an exact match is required between the authorized CPT code and the billed CPT code. If the exact match does not occur, the charge should be adjudicated accordingly.

***Please note: Services rendered in an Emergency Room, Observation, Surgery Center or Hospital Inpatient setting are not managed by Evolent.**

Authorized CPT Code	Description	Allowable Billed Groupings
70336	MRI Temporomandibular Joint	70336
70450	CT Head/Brain	70450, 70460, 70470, +0722T
70480	CT Orbit	70480, 70481, 70482, +0722T
70486	CT Maxillofacial/Sinus	70486, 70487, 70488, 76380, +0722T
70490	CT Soft Tissue Neck	70490, 70491, 70492, +0722T
70496	CT Angiography, Head	70496
70498	CT Angiography, Neck	70498
70540	MRI Orbit, Face, Neck and/or Internal Auditory Canal	70540, 70542, 70543, +0698T
70544	MRA Head	70544, 70545, 70546
70547	MRA Neck	70547, 70548, 70549
70551	MRI Brain (with or without Internal Auditory Canal views)	70551, 70552, 70553, +0698T
70554	Functional MRI Brain	70554, 70555
71250	CT Chest	71250, 71260, 71270, 71271, +0722T
71271	Low Dose CT for Lung Cancer Screening	71271
71275	CT Angiography, Chest (non-coronary)	71275
71550	MRI Chest	71550, 71551, 71552, +0698T
71555	MRA Chest (excluding myocardium)	71555

Authorized CPT Code	Description	Allowable Billed Groupings
72125	CT Cervical Spine	72125, 72126, 72127, +0722T
72128	CT Thoracic Spine	72128, 72129, 72130, +0722T
72131	CT Lumbar Spine	72131, 72132, 72133, +0722T
72141	MRI Cervical Spine	72141, 72142, 72156, +0698T
72146	MRI Thoracic Spine	72146, 72147, 72157, +0698T
72148	MRI Lumbar Spine	72148, 72149, 72158, +0698T
72159	MRA Spinal Canal	72159
72191	CT Angiography, Pelvis	72191
72192	CT Pelvis	72192, 72193, 72194, +0722T
72196	MRI Pelvis	72195, 72196, 72197, +0698T
72198	MRA Pelvis	72198
73200	CT Upper Extremity	73200, 73201, 73202, +0722T
73206	CT Angiography, Upper Extremity	73206
73220	MRI Upper Extremity, other than Joint	73218, 73219, 73220, +0698T
73221	MRI Upper Extremity Joint	73221, 73222, 73223, +0698T
73225	MRA Upper Extremity	73225
73700	CT Lower Extremity	73700, 73701, 73702, +0722T
73706	CT Angiography, Lower Extremity	73706
73720	MRI Lower Extremity	73718, 73719, 73720, 73721, 73722, 73723, +0698T
73721	MRI Hip	72195, 72196, 72197, 73721, 73722, 73723, +0698T
73725	MRA Lower Extremity	73725
74150	CT Abdomen	74150, 74160, 74170, +0722T
74174	CT Angiography, Abdomen and Pelvis	74174
74175	CT Angiography, Abdomen	74175
74176	CT Abdomen and Pelvis Combination	74176, 74177, 74178, +0722T
74181	MRI Abdomen	74181, 74182, 74183, S8037, +0698T, +0724T
74185	MRA Abdomen	74185
74261	Diagnostic CT Colonoscopy (Virtual Colonoscopy, CT Colonography)	74261, 74262, +0722T
74263	Screening CT Colonoscopy (Virtual Colonoscopy, CT Colonography)	74263, +0722T

Authorized CPT Code	Description	Allowable Billed Groupings
75557	MRI Heart	75557, 75559, 75561, 75563, +75565, +0698T
75571	Coronary Artery Ca Score, Heart Scan, Ultrafast CT Heart, Electron Beam CT	75571, S8092, +0722T
75572	CT Heart	75572, +0722T
75573	CT Heart congenital studies, non-coronary arteries	75573, +0722T
75574	CTA coronary arteries (CCTA)	75574
75635	CT Angiography, Abdominal Aorta with Lower Extremity Runoff	75635
76380	Follow Up, Limited or Localized CT	76380, 70486, 70487, 70488
76390	MR Spectroscopy	76390, +0698T
76391	Magnetic Resonance Elastography (MRE)	76391
76498	Unlisted Magnetic Resonance Procedure	76498, +0698T
77012 ⁴	CT Guidance	77011, 77012, 77013
77021 ⁴	MRI Guidance for Needle Placement	77021, 77022
77046 ⁵	MRI Breast	77046, 77047, 77048, 77049, +0698T
77084	MRI Bone Marrow	77084
78429	Heart PET Scan with CT for Attenuation	78459, 78491, 78492, +78434, 78429, 78430, 78431, 78432, 78433
78451	Myocardial Perfusion Imaging – Nuclear Cardiology Study	78451, 78452, 78453, 78454, 78466, 78468, 78469, 78481, 78483, 78499, +0742T
78459	Heart PET Scan	78459, 78491, 78492, +78434
78472	MUGA Scan	78472, 78473, 78494, +78496
78608	PET Scan, Brain	78608, 78609
78813 ^{1, 2}	PET Scan	78811, 78812, 78813, 78814, 78815, 78816
78816 ^{1, 2}	PET Scan with concurrently acquired CT for attenuation correction and anatomic, localization.	78811, 78812, 78813, 78814, 78815, 78816
G0235	PET imaging, any site, not otherwise specified	G0235
G0252 ³	PET imaging, initial diagnosis of breast cancer and/or surgical planning for breast cancer	G0252
S8037	MR Cholangiopancreatography	S8037, 74181, 74182, 74183
0042T	Cerebral Perfusion Analysis CT	0042T

Payment for + codes (add on codes) may depend upon the appropriateness of the application of such codes related to the approved primary code.

- 1 Evolent will not be making a medical necessity determination as to which of these codes are appropriate. Instead, we will make a determination as to whether the PET scan itself is indicated and then expect the imaging facility to bill in a fashion that accurately describes what was performed.
- 2 The 78814 series describes a PET scan where CT technology is used to better “focus” the PET scanning. When an ordering physician requests a PET scan, they won’t know whether or not an older machine will be used without the CT component. Evolent’s tumor imaging clinical guidelines does not make a distinction between which technique is used. If a PET scan is clinically indicated, use of either series of codes is acceptable. Accordingly, we are expanding the list of “Allowable Billable Groupings” to take this into account. These codes are NOT to be used for a study typically called PET Fusion. A PET fusion study is where a PET Scan and a diagnostic CT scan are performed on the same machine simultaneously. Under this situation one is instructed by CPT to bill using both the PET CPT code and the CT scan code describing the body region and procedure performed. The CT code should be appended with a modifier 59 to ensure proper payment. When receiving such requests, Evolent will review the medical necessity for both the PET scan and the CT scan and issue UM determinations on both codes.
- 3 G0252 is a code that describes a tumor imaging PET for breast cancer under a specific indication. This is considered a non covered indication.
- 4 These codes describe the CT or MRI “guidance” component of a diagnostic procedure. Historically, Evolent has determined that the use of such technology is not subject to abuse. Evolent’s intent is to manage diagnostic and not therapeutic CT and MRI services. In order to avoid confusion in the provider community, Evolent will approve such services if we receive a request. We suggest to our client partners, that these codes not be built into one’s claim system to require a prior authorization, that these codes not be listed under the Evolent program and that providers be educated to such.
- 5 HCPCS codes C8903, C8905, C8906, C8908 and C8937 are associated with Breast MRI and do not require a separate authorization.