

JE MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING (MRI) AND COMPUTERIZED TOMOGRAPHY (CT) SCANS OF HEAD AND NECK POLICY CHECKLIST

This checklist is intended to provide healthcare providers with a reference for use when responding to documentation requests for this service. It is not intended to replace the published guidelines or policy.

Policy References

- [MRI and CT Scans of the Head and Neck LCD Policy \(L37373\)](#)
- [Policy Article \(A57204\)](#)
- [Computed Tomography NCD 220.1](#)
- [Magnetic Resonance Imaging NCD 220.2](#)

Documentation References

- [Documentation Guidelines for Medicare Services](#)
- [Radiology Documentation Requirements](#)

The treating clinician must complete the following items

- Documentation of order or evidence of intent to order
- Documentation supporting the diagnosis code(s)
- Documentation to support the code(s) and modifier(s) billed

Medical Documentation

Coverage is possible when the following are met for CT scans or MRI:

- Reason(s) for head and neck CT scan or MRI must be clearly documented in the clinical chart
- Include symptoms and preliminary (or provisional) diagnosis
- CT scan order or report indicating with or without contrast
- Explanation of how the results of the CT scan or MRI will be used for the patient's care
- Supports interpretation and/or report with appropriate modifiers appended to code