



**EMBLEMHEALTH OUTPATIENT IMAGING
SELF-REFERRAL PAYMENT POLICY
(Administered by eviCore HealthCare)
01/01/2021**

The Outpatient Imaging Self-Referral payment policies are designed to promote appropriate use of diagnostic imaging by primary care physicians, specialty physicians, and other health care professionals in an office setting. The EmblemHealth payment policies below designate which imaging procedures shall be payable by EmblemHealth (subject to member benefits) in primary care physicians', specialty physicians' and other health care professionals' offices by provider practice specialty. In addition, these payment policies describe the minimum accreditation and certification requirements for ultrasound, echocardiography, and nuclear medicine. This payment policy assumes board certification (by an ABMS recognized board) in the provider specialties listed below. All specialty payment policies apply to the related pediatric specialties as well.

This policy does not apply to services rendered in Putnam, Ulster, and Onondaga Counties.

Key:

- * These procedures require preauthorization; call **866-417-2345**
(GHI City of New York members are exempt from preauthorization of certain codes by eviCore (for example, 78429, 78430, 78431, 78432, 78433, 93303, 93304, 93306, 93307, 93308, 93312, 93312, 93314, 93315, 93350, and 93351). Some codes may require preauthorization from Empire BCBS. See the Preauthorization Check Tool in the secure Provider Portal to see which codes need preauthorization and from whom.
- ** Any studies beyond three (3) require preauthorization; call **866-417-2345** (GHI City of New York members are excluded from this requirement)
- *** Code added effective 01/01/2021.

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Primary Care Physicians: Internal Medicine and Family Practice	71045, 71046, 71047, 71048 74018, 74019, 74021 77080, 77081, 77085	Chest imaging Abdomen Imaging DEXA studies, bone densitometry	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	93303*, 93304*, 93306*, 93307* 93308* 93320, 93321, 93325	Transthoracic Echocardiography Doppler echocardiography, add-on codes	National Board of Echocardiography (NBE) certification in Adult Echocardiography AND Laboratories accredited by the Intersocietal Commission (IAC) in Adult Transthoracic Echocardiography

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Cardiologists (Includes cardiovascular specialist, interventional cardiologist, and cardiac electrophysiologist.)	71045, 71046, 71047, 71048	Chest imaging	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	33016, 33017, 33018, 33019 76932 93303*, 93304*, 93306*, 93307*, 93308* 93350*, 93351* 93320, 93321, 93325	Pericardiocentesis Ultrasound guidance for endomyocardial biopsy Transthoracic Echocardiography Stress Echocardiography Doppler echocardiography, add-on codes	1) Cardiology certification by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) or 2) Cardiology Certification by the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine (AOBIM) AND Laboratories accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) in Adult Transthoracic Echocardiography
	93312*,93313*,93314*, 93315*	Echocardiography, trans esophageal,	1) Cardiology certification by the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) or 2) Cardiology Certification by the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine (AOBIM) AND 3) Laboratories accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) in Adult Transesophageal Echocardiography

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Cardiologists (Nuclear)	78451*, 78452*, 78453*, 78454* 78466*, 78468*, 78469* 78472*, 78473*, 78481*, 78483*, 78494*, 78496* 78803***, 78830***	Myocardial perfusion imaging Myocardial infarction scans Cardiac blood pool imaging Gated heart planar SPECT	1) Certification by the American Board of Radiology (ABR) or 2) American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM) or 3) American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), Cardiology and 1) Certification Board for Nuclear Cardiology (CBNC). or 2) Cardiologists who have recently completed an accredited cardiology fellowship within the last year and completion of Level 2 Core Cardiology Training Symposium (COCATS) training in nuclear cardiology AND 1) Laboratories accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) Nuclear/PET – in Nuclear Cardiology or 2) American College of Radiology (ACR) in Nuclear Medicine– Nuclear Cardiology Module or 3) Radsite in Nuc Med Cardiac Module

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Cardiologists (Cardiac PET)	78459, 78491, 78492 78429*, 78430*, 78431*, 78432*, 78433*	Myocardial imaging, positron emission tomography (PET)	1) American Board of Radiology (ABR) or 2) American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM) or 3) American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), Cardiology subspecialty AND 1) Certification Board of Nuclear Cardiology (CBNC) or 2) Cardiologist who have completed an accredited cardiology fellowship within the last year and completion of Level 2 Core Cardiology Training Symposium (COCATS) training in nuclear cardiology AND 1) Laboratories accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) Nuclear/PET in Cardiac imaging or 2) American College of Radiology (ACR) PET accreditation with cardiac module or 3) Radsite in PET-Cardiac Module
Pediatric Cardiologist	71045, 71046, 71047, 71048 76820**, 76821** 76825**, 76826**, 76827**, 76828** 71555* 75557*, 75559*, 75561*, 75563*	Chest imaging Doppler velocimetry, fetal Echo, fetal, cardiovascular Doppler echo, fetal pulsed or continuous wave. f/u or repeat MRA Chest Cardiac magnetic resonance Imaging	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Pediatric Cardiologist (continued)	33016, 33017, 33018, 33019 76932	Pericardiocentesis Ultrasound guidance for endomyocardial biopsy	Certification in pediatric cardiology by the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) AND Laboratories accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) in Pediatric Transthoracic Echocardiography
	93303*, 93304*, 93306*, 93307*, 93308* 93320, 93321, 93325 93350,* 93351*	Transthoracic echocardiography Doppler echocardiography, add- on codes Stress echocardiography	
	93312*,93313*,93314*, 93315*	Echocardiography, trans esophageal	Certification in pediatric cardiology by the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) And Laboratories accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) in Pediatric Transesophageal Echocardiography
Chiropractors	72040, 72070, 72080, 72100	Spine imaging	Chiropractors are exempt from ABMS certification. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
Colon & Rectal Surgeons	76872 76942	Ultrasound transrectal Ultrasound guidance for biopsy	Certification by the American Board of Colon & Rectal Surgery (ABCRS)
Endocrinologists	77080, 77081, 77085	DEXA studies, bone densitometry	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	76536 76942	Thyroid ultrasound Ultrasound guidance for biopsy	American Institute of Ultrasound Medicine (AIUM) in Thyroid/Parathyroid and Neck.
Gastroenterologists	76975 76391 76978 76979	Endoscopic ultrasound MR elastography Ultrasound, targeted dynamic microbubble sonographic	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
General Surgeons	76942 76641 76642	Ultrasound guidance for biopsy Breast ultrasound, complete Breast ultrasound, limited	For breast ultrasound and ultrasound guided breast biopsy: Physicians must be certified in breast ultrasound by the American Soc. of Breast Surgeons (ASBS) AND facilities must have accreditation from the ASBS for breast ultrasound and ultrasound guided breast biopsy or be accredited by ACR in breast ultrasound or The AIUM in interventional breast ultrasound
Geriatricians	71045, 71046, 71047, 71048	Chest imaging	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	93303*, 93304*, 93306*, 93307*, 93308* 93320, 93321, 93325	Transthoracic echocardiography Doppler echocardiography, add-on codes	Non-cardiologists: National Board of Echocardiography (NBE) certification in Adult Echocardiography AND Laboratories accredited by the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) in Adult Transthoracic Echocardiography
Hand Surgeons	76000 73100, 73110, 73115, 73120, 73130, 73140	Fluoroscopy Upper extremity imaging	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
Head and Neck Surgeons (ENT, Otolaryngologists)	76942 76536	Ultrasound guidance for biopsy only Thyroid ultrasound	American Institute of Ultrasound Medicine (AIUM) in Thyroid/Parathyroid and Neck

Hematologist/Oncologists Medical Oncologists	71045, 71046, 71047, 71048	Chest imaging	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
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Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Maternal and Fetal Medicine	77067 77061, 77062, 77063, G0279	Screening Mammography with Computer Aided Detection Tomosynthesis	Must be fully compliant with MQSA requirements to perform screening mammography
	74740 77080, 77081, 77085 76830, 76856, 76857 76815**, 76816**, 76817**	Hysterosalpingography DEXA studies, bone densitometry Ultrasonic guidance Ultrasound: obstetrical	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	33016, 33017, 33018, 33019 76941, 76942, 76945, 76946, 76948	Pericardiocentesis Ultrasonic guidance	
	76801**, 76802**, 76805**, 76810**, 76811**, 76812**, 76813**, 76814** 76818**, 76819**, 76820**, 76821**, 76825**, 76826**, 76827**, 76828** 93325	Ultrasound: obstetrical, pelvic, guidance Doppler echocardiography, add-on	American Institute of Ultrasound Medicine (AIUM) accreditation in obstetrics ultrasound or ACR accreditation in obstetrical ultrasound
	Nephrologists	77021 77012 76942	MR guidance for needle placement CT scan for needle biopsy Ultrasound guidance for biopsy
Neurology	93880	Duplex scan of extracranial	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Nuclear Medicine	78012*,78013*, 78014*, 78015*, 78016*, 78018*, 78020*, 78070*, 78071*, 78072*, 78075*, 78102*, 78103*, 78104*, 78110, 78111, 78120, 78121, 78122, 78130, 78140, 78185*, 78190, 78191, 78195*, 78201*, 78202*, 78215*, 78216*, 78226*, 78227*, 78230*, 78231*, 78232*, 78258*, 78261*, 78262*, 78264*, 78270, 78271, 78272, 78278*, 78282*, 78290*, 78291*, 78300*, 78305*, 78306*, 78315*, 78579*, 78580*, 78582*, 78597*, 78598*, 78600*, 78601*, 78605*, 78606*, 78610*, 78630*, 78635*, 78645*, 78650*, 78660*, 78700*, 78701*, 78707*, 78708*, 78709*, , 78725*, 78730*, 78740*, 78761*, 78800*, 78801*, 78802*, 78803*, 78804*, 78808, 78811*, 78812*, 78813*, 78814*, 78815*, 78816*, 78830*, 78831*, 78832*	Nuclear medicine studies	Physicians to be certified by ABR or American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM)
OB/GYN	77067 77061, 77062, 77063, G0279	Screening Mammography with Computer Aided Detection Tomosynthesis	Must be fully compliant with MQSA requirement to perform screening mammography
	74740 77080, 77081, 77085 76815**, 76816**, 76817** 76830, 76856, 76857 33016, 33017, 33018, 33019 76941, 76945, 76946, 76948	Hysterosalpingography DEXA studies, bone densitometry Ultrasound: obstetrical Ultrasonic guidance Pericardiocentesis Ultrasonic guidance	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	76801**, 76802**, 76805**, 76810**, 76811**, 76812**, 76813**, 76814**, 76818**, 76819**, 76820**, 76821**, 76825**, 76826**, 76827**, 76828** 93325	Ultrasound: obstetrical, pelvic, Doppler echocardiography	AIUM accreditation in obstetrics ultrasound or ACR accreditation in obstetrical ultrasound

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Oral Surgeons	70100, 70110, 70140, 70150 70300, 70310, 70320 70328, 70330 70350 70355	Mandible and facial bone imaging Teeth imaging TMJ imaging Cephalogram Orthopantomogram	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
Orthopedists (Including Pediatric Orthopedists, Orthopedic Surgeons and Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon)	71100, 71101, 71110, 71111 71120, 71130 72020, 72040, 72070, 72072, 72074, 72080, 72081, 72082, 72083, 72084, 72100, 72110, 72114, 72120, 72170, 72190 72200, 72202, 72220 73000, 73010, 73020, 73030, 73040, 73050, 73060, 73070, 73080, 73085, 73090, 73092, 73100, 73110, 73115, 73120, 73130, 73140, 73501, 73502, 73503, 73521, 73522, 73523, 73525, 73551, 73552, 73560, 73562, 73564, 73565, 73580, 73590, 73592, 73600, 73610, 73615, 73620, 73630, 73650, 73660 76000, 77002, 77003 77071 77073 77077	Radiologic examination, ribs Radiologic examination, sternum Spine and Pelvis imaging Imaging sacroiliac joints Imaging to upper and lower extremities Fluoroscopy Radiologic examination, any joint Bone length studies Joint survey	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	76881 76882 76885 76886 76942	Ultrasound, extremity Ultrasound, extremity, limited Ultrasound, infant hips Ultrasound, infant hips, limited Ultrasound guidance for biopsy	AIUM accreditation in musculoskeletal ultrasound
Pain Specialists (physiatrists, anesthesiologists, neurologists, and neurosurgeons)	72020, 72040, 72050, 72052, 72070, 72072, 72074, 72080, 72081, 72082, 72083, 72084, 72100, 72110, 72114, 72120 74018, 74019, 74021 72275 76000, 77002, 77003	Radiologic examination, spine Abdomen Imaging Epidurography, Fluoroscopy Fluoroscopic guidance	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
Pediatricians	71045, 71046, 71047, 71048	Chest imaging	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.

Podiatrists	73600, 73610, 73620, 73630, 73650, 73660	Lower extremity imaging	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	76881 76882 76942	Ultrasound, extremity Ultrasound, extremity, limited Ultrasound guidance for biopsy	AIUM accreditation in musculoskeletal ultrasound

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Pulmonologists	71045, 71046, 71047, 71048	Chest imaging	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditations not required for codes in this row.
Radiation Oncologists	77011*** 77012 77014 76873 76965 76942	CT guidance for stereotactic localization CT guidance for needle placement CT guidance for placement of radiation therapy fields Prostate volume study for brachytherapy treatment planning Ultrasound guidance for interstitial radioelement application Ultrasound guidance for biopsy only	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditations not required for codes in this row.
Reproductive Endocrinologists	77067 77061, 77062, 77063, G0279	Screening Mammography with Computer Aided Detection Tomosynthesis	Must be fully compliant with MQSA requirements to perform screening Mammography.
	77080, 77081, 77085 76830, 76856, 76857	DEXA studies, bone densitometry Ultrasonic guidance	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board.
	76948 76815**, 76816**, 76817**	Ultrasound guidance for aspiration of ova Ultrasound: obstetrical	Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	74740 76700, 76705	Hysterosalpingography Ultrasound, Abdominal	AIUM accreditation in obstetrics or ACR accreditation in obstetrical ultrasound
	76801**, 76802**, 76805**, 76810**, 76811**, 76812**, 76813**, 76814**, 76818**, 76819**, 76820**, 76821**, 76825**, 76826**, 76827**, 76828** 76941	Ultrasound: obstetrical, pelvic, guidance	
	76942 76945 76946 76998 93325	Doppler echocardiography, add-on	

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Rheumatologists	72070, 72072, 72074, 72080, 72081, 72082, 72083, 72084, 72100, 72110, 72114, 72120, 72170, 72190, 72200, 72202, 72220 73000, 73010, 73020, 73030, 73040, 73050, 73060, 73070, 73080, 73085, 73090, 73092, 73100, 73110, 73115, 73120, 73130, 73140, 73501, 73502, 73503, 73521, 73522, 73523, 73525, 73551, 73552, 73560, 73562, 73564, 73565, 73580, 73590, 73592, 73600, 73610, 73615, 73620, 73630, 73650, 73660, 76000, 77002, 77003, 77071, 77073, 77077 77080, 77081, 77085	Spine and Pelvis imaging Imaging sacroiliac joints Imaging to upper and lower extremities Fluoroscopy Radiologic examination, any joint Bone length studies Joint survey DEXA studies, bone densitometry	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	76881 76882 76885 76886 76942	Ultrasound, extremity Ultrasound, extremity, limited Ultrasound, infant hips Ultrasound, infant hips, limited Ultrasound guidance for needle placement	AIUM accreditation in musculoskeletal ultrasound
Sports Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehab	71100, 71101, 71110, 71111 71120, 71130 72020, 72040, 72050, 72052, 72070, 72072, 72074, 72080, 72081, 72082, 72083, 72084, 72100, 72110, 72114, 72120, 72170, 72190 72200, 72202, 72220 73000, 73010, 73020, 73030, 73040, 73050, 73060, 73070, 73080, 73085, 73090, 73092, 73100, 73110, 73115, 73120, 73130, 73140, 73501, 73502, 73503, 73521, 73522, 73523, 73525, 73551, 73552, 73560, 73562, 73564, 73565, 73580, 73590, 73592, 73600, 73610, 73615, 73620, 73630, 73650, 73660	Radiologic examination, ribs Radiologic examination, sternum Spine and Pelvis imaging Imaging sacroiliac joints Imaging to upper and lower extremities	Board certification in sports medicine and combined fellowship, residency and training in sports medicine of at least four (4) years.
	76881 76882 76942	Ultrasound, extremity Ultrasound, extremity, limited Ultrasound guidance for biopsy	AIUM accreditation in dedicated musculoskeletal ultrasound

Provider Specialty	Procedure Code	Code Description	Certification & Accreditation Requirement(s)
Urologists	74455 74410 74415 74420	Urethrocystography X-ray urinary tract	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.
	76775 76870, 76872 76873 76942 76857	Ultrasound, retroperitoneal, limited Ultrasounds - scrotum, trans rectal Prostate volume study for brachytherapy treatment planning US guidance for biopsy Ultrasound pelvic limited or follow up	AIUM accreditation in urologic ultrasound
Vascular Neurology	76125 75898 75894 75600	Cineradiography/ videoradiography Angiography through existing catheter Transcatheter therapy, embolization Aortography, thoracic, without serialography	Certification by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) in Vascular Neurology
Vascular Surgeons	77001 76937	Fluoroscopic guidance for central venous access device Ultrasound guidance for vascular access	Board certification by an ABMS recognized board. Accreditation not required for codes in this row.

References:

1. American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists (AACE), Endocrine Certification in Neck Ultrasound (ECNU) <https://pro.aace.com/education/certification-neck-ultrasound>
2. American Board of Radiology (ABR) <http://www.theabr.org/>
3. American College of Cardiology (ACC) <http://www.acc.org/>
4. American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM) <http://www.acnmonline.org/>
5. American College of Radiology (ACR) <http://www.acr.org/>
6. American Osteopathic Board of Radiology (AOBR) <http://www.aocr.org/>
7. American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) <http://www.ardms.org/>
8. American Registry of MRI Technologists (ARMRIT) <http://www.armrit.org/index.shtml>
9. American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) <https://www.rrt.org/>
10. American Society of Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC) <http://www.asnc.org/>
11. American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) <http://www.aium.org/>
12. Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) <http://www.camrt.ca/>
13. Federal Drug Administration (FDA), Radiation Emitting Products <http://www.fda.gov/Radiation-EmittingProducts/default.htm>
14. International Society of Bone Densitometry (ISCD) <http://www.iscd.org/>
15. Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) <http://www.intersocietal.org/intersocietal.htm>
16. Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Computed Tomographic Laboratories (ICACTL) <http://www.intersocietal.org/ct/>
17. Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL) <http://www.intersocietal.org/echo/>
18. Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Magnetic Resonance Laboratories (ICAMRL) <http://www.intersocietal.org/mri/>
19. Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Nuclear Medicine Laboratories (ICANL) <http://www.intersocietal.org/nuclear/>
20. Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Vascular Testing (ICAVL) <http://www.intersocietal.org/vascular/>
21. Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) <http://www.fda.gov/Radiation-EmittingProducts/MammographyQualityStandardsActandProgram/Regulations/ucm110823.htm>