

Special Bulletin

For professional and facility providers

October 18, 2024

Eight Breast MRI Codes to be Removed from Prior Authorization List

Effective Nov. 1, 2024, the following eight breast MRI codes will be removed from the prior authorization list:

Procedure Code	Description
C8903	MRI breast with contrast, unilateral
C8905	MRI breast with and without contrast, unilateral
C8906	MRI breast bilateral with contrast
C8908	MRI breast bilateral with and without contrast
77046	Magnetic resonance imaging, breast, without contrast material; unilateral
77047	Magnetic resonance imaging, breast, without contrast material; bilateral
77048	Magnetic resonance imaging, breast, without and with contrast material(s), including computer-aided detection (CAD real-time lesion detection, characterization and pharmacokinetic analysis), when performed; unilateral
77049	Magnetic resonance imaging, breast, without and with contrast material(s), including computer-aided detection (CAD real-time lesion detection, characterization and pharmacokinetic analysis), when performed; bilateral

Beginning Nov. 1, 2024, these eight procedures will no longer require prior authorization.

Important Information for Acquiring Prior Authorization

The [List of Procedures/DME Requiring Authorization](#) for Highmark is subject to change. During the year, Highmark makes several adjustments to its full list of outpatient procedures, services, durable medical equipment, and drugs requiring authorization. For benefits to be paid, the member must be eligible on the date of service and the service must be a covered benefit. Providers should use [Availity](#)[®] or the applicable HIPAA electronic transactions to check member benefits and eligibility, to verify if an authorization is required, and to obtain authorization for services before they are rendered.

The following entities, which serve the noted regions, are independent licensees of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association: Western and Northeastern PA: Highmark Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Highmark Choice Company, Highmark Health Insurance Company, Highmark Coverage Advantage Inc., Highmark Benefits Group Inc., First Priority Health, First Priority Life or Highmark Senior Health Company. Central and Southeastern PA: Highmark Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Shield, Highmark Benefits Group Inc., Highmark Health Insurance Company, Highmark Choice Company, or Highmark Senior Health Company. Delaware: Highmark BCBSD Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. West Virginia: Highmark West Virginia Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Highmark Health Insurance Company, or Highmark Senior Solutions Company. Western NY: Highmark Western and Northeastern New York Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. Northeastern NY: Highmark Western and Northeastern New York Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Shield.

All references to "Highmark" in this document are references to the Highmark company that is providing the member's health benefits or health benefit administration and/or to one or more of its affiliated Blue companies.

Availity is an independent company that contracts with Highmark to offer provider portal services.

