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**Nuclear Medicine and
Charging for
Radiopharmaceuticals**

The bottom line in *charge process improvement*

The Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) used to reimburse for Nuclear Medicine procedures under The Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) does not include the cost of many radiopharmaceutical agents. For this reason, hospitals need to know when they must generate separate charges for radiopharmaceuticals or isotopes that are used in conjunction with these procedures.

Radiopharmaceuticals

The hospital charge master should contain specific charges for all radiopharmaceuticals that are used in conjunction with Nuclear Medicine procedures.

The table below presents the 2006 HCPCS Level II for radiopharmaceuticals. The status indicator and the applicable UB-92 revenue codes are also included. The status indicator is part of OPPS and represents whether payment is by APC, by fee schedule, or not paid. The UB-92 revenue code is a three digit number that describes the type of service provided, e.g. 343 Nuclear Medicine – Diagnostic Radiopharmaceutical, or 344 Nuclear Medicine – Therapeutic Radiopharmaceutical.

For the table below:

** Status Indicator N means that this is an incidental service and not separately paid under OPPS.

** Status Indicator H means that this is a paid under OPPS by one of the following methods:

1. Separate cost-based Pass-Through payment not subject to coinsurance
2. Separate cost-based Non-Pass-Through payment

CPT/HCPCS CODE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS INDICATOR	UB-92 REV CODE
A4641	NM RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL DIAGNOSTIC	N	343
A4642	NM SATUMOMAB PENDETIDE PER DOSE DX	H	343
A9500	NM TC-99M SESTAMIBI PER DOSE DX	H	343
A9502	NM TC-99M TETROFOSMIN PER UNIT DOSE DX	H	343
A9503	NM TC-99M MEDRONATE UP TO 30 MCI DX	N	343
A9504	NM TC-99M APCITIDE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 20 MCI DX	H	343
A9505	NM THALLOUS CHLORIDE TL-201 PER MCI DX	H	343
A9507	NM I-111 CAPROMAB PENDETIDE PER DOSE DX	H	343
A9508	NM I-131 PER 0.5 MCI DX	H	343
A9510	NM TC-99M DISOFENIN UP TO 15 MCI DX	H	343
A9512	NM TC-99M PERTECHNETATE PER MCI DX	N	343
A9516	NM I-123 CAPSULE PER 100 UCI DX	H	343
A9517	NM I-131 CAPSULE PER MCI TX	H	344
A9521	NM TC-99M EXAMETAZINE PER DOSE DX	H	343
A9524	NM I-131 SERUM ALBUMIN PER 5 UCI DX	H	343
A9526	NM AMMONIA N-13 PER DOSE	H	343
A9528	NM I-131 CAPSULE PER MCI DX	H	343
A9529	NM I-131 SOLUTION PER MCI DX	H	343
A9530	NM I-131 SOLUTION PER MCI TX	H	344
A9531	NM I-131 SODIUM PER UCI (UP TO 100 UCI) DX	H	343
A9532	NM I-125 SERUM ALBUMIN PER 5 UCI DX	H	343
A9536	NM TC-99M DEPREOTIDE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 35 MCI DX	H	343
A9537	NM TC-99M MEBROFENIN PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 15 MCI DX	N	343
A9538	NM TC-99M PYROPHOSPHATE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 25 MCI DX	N	343
A9539	NM TC-99M PENTETATE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 25 MCI DX	N	343
A9540	NM TC-99M MACROAGGREGATED ALBUMIN PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 10 MCI DX	N	343
A9541	NM TC-99M SULFUR COLLOID PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 20 MCI DX	N	343
A9542	NM I-111 IBRITUMOMAB TIUXETAN PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 5 MCI DX	H	343
A9543	NM YTTRIUM Y-90 IBRITUMOMAB TIUXETAN PER TREATMENT DOSE UP TO 40 MCI TX	H	344
A9544	NM I-131 TOSITUMOMAB PER STUDY DOSE DX	H	343
A9545	NM I-131 TOSITUMOMAB PER TREATMENT DOSE TX	H	344
A9546	NM COBALT CO-57/58 CYANOCOBALAMIN PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 1 UCI DX	N	343
A9547	NM I-111 OXYQUINOLINE PER 0.5 MCI DX	H	343
A9548	NM I-111 PENTETATE PER 0.5 MCI DX	H	343
A9549	NM TC-99M ARCITUMOMAB PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 25 MCI DX	H	343
A9550	NM TC-99M SODIUM GLUCEPTATE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 25 MCI DX	H	343
A9551	NM TC-99M SUCCIMER PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 10 MCI DX	H	343
A9552	NM FLUORODEOXYGLUCOSE F-18 FDG PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 45 UCI DX	H	343
A9553	NM CHROMIUM CR-51 SODIUM CHROMATE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 250 UCI DX	H	343
A9554	NM I-125 SODIUM IOTHALAMATE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 10 MCI DX	H	343
A9555	NM RUBIDIUM RB-82 PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 60 MCI DX	H	343
A9556	NM GALLIUM GA-67 CITRATE PER MCI DX	H	343
A9557	NM TC-99M BICISATE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 25 MCI DX	H	343
A9558	NM XENON XE-133 GAS PER 10 MCI DX	N	343
A9559	NM COBALT CO-57 CYANOCOBALAMIN ORAL PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 1 UCI DX	N	343
A9560	NM TC-99M LABELED RED BLOOD CELLS PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 30 MCI DX	H	343
A9561	NM TC-99M OXIDRONATE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 30 MCI DX	N	343
A9562	NM TC-99M MERTIATIDE PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 15 MCI DX	H	343
A9563	NM SODIUM PHOSPHATE P-32 PER MCI TX	H	344
A9564	NM CHROMIC PHOSPHATE P-32 SUSPENSION PER MCI TX	H	344
A9565	NM I-111 PENTETREOTIDE PER MCI DX	H	343
A9566	NM TC-99M FANOLESOMAB PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 25 MCI DX	H	343
A9567	NM TC-99M PENTETATE AEROSOL PER STUDY DOSE UP TO 75 MCI DX	H	343
A9600	NM STRONTIUM-89 PER MCI TX	H	344
A9605	NM SAMARIUM-153 LEXIDRONAM 50 MCI TX	H	344
A9699	NM RADIOPHARMACEUTICAL THERAPEUTIC	N	344



For more information on correct coding and structuring the hospital charge description master (CDM) to optimize allowable reimbursement, contact CPI Experts

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