

MedStar Health, Inc.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Policy Number: MP.127.MH
Last Review Date: 02/04/2016
Effective Date: 03/01/2016
Renewal Date: 02/01/2017

MP.127.MH – Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy

This policy applies to the following lines of business:

- ✓ MedStar Employee (Select)
- ✓ MedStar MA – DSNP – CSNP
- ✓ MedStar CareFirst PPO

MedStar Health considers Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (MRS) medically necessary for the following indications:

MRS is considered medically necessary for **any** of the following indications:

1. Grading of primary glial neoplasm, particularly high-grade versus low-grade glioma
2. Differentiation between recurrent tumor and treatment related changes, or radiation injury, and other non-tumor brain tissue changes.

Limitations

1. Any other use of MRS not defined in the indications section above is not covered and considered Experimental and Investigational.
2. Some indications **not covered include but are not limited to:**
 - A. Prostate Cancer
 - B. Multiple Sclerosis
 - C. Epilepsy
 - D. Dementia (e.g. Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease)
 - E. Degenerative diseases
 - F. Cerebrovascular injury
 - G. Psychiatric disorders
 - H. Parkinson's Disease

Background

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) define Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (MRS) is an application of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). It is a non-invasive diagnostic test that uses strong magnetic fields to measure and analyze the chemical composition of human tissues, especially the presence of tumors.

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The American College of Radiology (ACR) states that MRS is a proven and useful method for the evaluation, assessment of severity, therapeutic planning, post-therapeutic monitoring, and follow-up of diseases of the brain and other regions of the body. The ACR strongly encourages to correlate the MRS findings with clinical history, physical examination, laboratory results, and diagnostic imaging studies.

Variation – Medicare

Magnetic resonance spectroscopy is not covered for Medicare.

Codes:

CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD-10 Codes	
Code	Description
CPT Codes	
76390	<i>Magnetic resonance spectroscopy</i>
ICD-9 codes covered if selection criteria are met:	
191.0-191.9	<i>Malignant neoplasm of brain</i>
198.3	<i>Secondary malignant neoplasm of brain and spinal cord</i>
225.0	<i>Benign neoplasm of brain and other parts of nervous system</i>
237.5	<i>Neoplasm of uncertain behavior of brain and spinal cord</i>
239.6	<i>Neoplasm of unspecified nature; of brain</i>
909.2	<i>Late effect of radiation</i>
990	<i>Effects of radiation; unspecified</i>
V10.85	<i>Personal history malignant neoplasm brain</i>
ICD-10 codes covered if selection criteria are met:	
C71.0-C71.9	Malignant neoplasm of brain
C79.31	Secondary malignant neoplasm of brain
D33.0-D33.3	Benign neoplasm of brain, cranial nerves
D43.0-D43.3	Neoplasm of uncertain behavior of brain
D49.6	Neoplasm of unspecified behavior of brain
T66.XXXA	Radiation sickness, unspecified, initial encounter
T66.XXXS	Radiation sickness, unspecified, sequela
Z85.841	Personal history malignant neoplasm of brain

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Disclaimer:

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