

**Medical Review Guidelines
Magnetic Resonance Imaging
Upper and Lower Joints**

Medical Guideline Number: MRG2005-01

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OHCA Reference OAC 317:30-5-24. Radiology. (f) *Magnetic Resonance Imaging. MRI /MRA scans are covered when medically necessary. Documentation in the progress notes must reflect medical necessity for the MRI.*

Description:

MRI is a noninvasive diagnostic scanning technique of representing the distribution of water and other hydrogen-rich molecules in the body in the absence of ionizing radiation and in the presence of a powerful, highly uniform, static magnetic field.

HCPCS CODES

73221	MRI joint, arm
73222	MRI joint, arm with contrast
73223	MRI joint, arm with and without contrast
73721	MRI joint, leg
73722	MRI joint, leg with contrast
73723	MRI joint, leg with and without contrast

COVERED ICD-9 CODES

170.4	Malignant neoplasm of scapula and long bones of upper limb
170.5	Malignant neoplasm of short bones of upper limb
170.7	Malignant neoplasm of long bones of lower limb
170.8	Malignant neoplasm of short bones of lower limb
171.2	Malignant neoplasm of upper limb, including shoulder
171.3	Malignant neoplasm of lower limb, including hip
195.4	Malignant neoplasm of upper limb
195.5	Malignant neoplasm of lower limb
711.01	Pyogenic arthritis, shoulder
711.02	Pyogenic arthritis, upper arm
711.03	Pyogenic arthritis, forearm
711.04	Pyogenic arthritis, hand
711.05	Pyogenic arthritis, pelvic region and thigh
711.06	Pyogenic arthritis, lower leg
711.07	Pyogenic arthritis, ankle and foot
711.08	Pyogenic arthritis, other specified
711.09	Pyogenic arthritis, multiple sites
717.1	Derangement of anterior horn of medial meniscus
717.2	Derangement of posterior horn of medial meniscus
717.41	Bucket handle tear of lateral meniscus
717.42	Derangement of anterior horn of lateral meniscus
717.43	Derangement of posterior horn of lateral meniscus
717.6	Loose body in knee

718.11	Loose body in joint, shoulder region
718.12	Loose body in joint, upper arm
718.13	Loose body in joint, forearm
718.14	Loose body in joint, hand
718.15	Loose body in joint, pelvic region and thigh
718.17	Loose body in joint, ankle and foot
718.21	Pathological dislocation, shoulder region
718.22	Pathological dislocation, upper arm
718.23	Pathological dislocation, forearm
718.24	Pathological dislocation, hand
718.25	Pathological dislocation, pelvic region and thigh
718.26	Pathological dislocation, lower leg
718.27	Pathological dislocation, ankle and foot
718.31	Recurrent dislocation of joint, shoulder region
718.32	Recurrent dislocation of joint, upper arm
718.33	Recurrent dislocation of joint, forearm
718.34	Recurrent dislocation of joint, hand
718.35	Recurrent dislocation of joint, pelvic region and thigh
718.36	Recurrent dislocation of joint, lower leg
718.37	Recurrent dislocation of joint, ankle and foot
718.41	Contracture of joint, shoulder region
727.61	Complete rupture of rotator cuff
727.63	Nontraumatic rupture of extensor tendons of hand and wrist
727.64	Nontraumatic rupture of flexor tendons of hand and wrist
727.66	Nontraumatic rupture of patellar tendon
727.67	Nontraumatic rupture of achilles tendon
730.01	Acute osteomyelitis, shoulder region
730.02	Acute osteomyelitis, upper arm
730.03	Acute osteomyelitis, forearm
730.04	Acute osteomyelitis, hand
730.05	Acute osteomyelitis, pelvic region and thigh
730.06	Acute osteomyelitis, lower limb
730.07	Acute osteomyelitis, ankle and foot
730.11	Chronic osteomyelitis, shoulder region
730.12	Chronic osteomyelitis, upper arm
730.13	Chronic osteomyelitis, forearm
730.14	Chronic osteomyelitis, hand
730.15	Chronic osteomyelitis, pelvic region and thigh
730.16	Chronic osteomyelitis, lower leg
730.17	Chronic osteomyelitis, ankle and foot
731.0	Osteitis deformans without mention of bone tumor
732.1	Juvenile osteochondrosis of hip and pelvis
732.3	Juvenile osteochondrosis of upper extremity
732.4	Juvenile osteochondrosis of lower extremity, excluding foot
732.5	Juvenile osteochondrosis of foot
733.41	Asceptic necrosis of bone, head of humerus
733.42	Asceptic necrosis of bone, head and neck of femur
733.43	Asceptic necrosis of bone, medial femoral condyle

733.44	Asceptic necrosis of bone, talus
831.01	Closed dislocation of shoulder, anterior dislocation of humerus
831.02	Closed dislocation of shoulder, posterior dislocation of humerus
831.03	Closed dislocation of shoulder, inferior dislocation of humerus
831.04	Closed dislocation of shoulder, acromioclavicular (joint)
831.11	Open dislocation of shoulder, anterior dislocation of humerus
831.12	Open dislocation of shoulder, posterior dislocation of humerus
831.13	Open dislocation of shoulder, inferior dislocation of humerus
831.14	Open dislocation of shoulder, acromioclavicular (joint)
832.01	Closed dislocation of elbow, anterior
832.02	Closed dislocation of elbow, posterior
832.03	Closed dislocation of elbow, medial
832.04	Closed dislocation of elbow, lateral
832.11	Open dislocation of elbow, anterior
832.12	Open dislocation of elbow, posterior
832.13	Open dislocation of elbow, medial
832.14	Open dislocation of elbow, lateral
833.01	Closed dislocation of wrist, radioulnar (joint), distal
833.02	Closed dislocation of wrist, radiocarpal (joint)
833.03	Closed dislocation of wrist, midcarpal (joint)
833.04	Closed dislocation of wrist, carpometacarpal (joint)
833.05	Closed dislocation of wrist, metacarpal (bone), proximal end
833.11	Open dislocation of wrist, radioulnar (joint), distal
833.12	Open dislocation of wrist, radiocarpal (joint)
833.13	Open dislocation of wrist, midcarpal (joint)
833.14	Open dislocation of wrist, carpometacarpal (joint)
833.15	Open dislocation of wrist, metacarpal (bone), proximal end
834.01	Closed dislocation of finger, metacarpophalangeal (joint)
834.02	Closed dislocation of finger, interphalangeal (joint), hand
834.11	Open dislocation of finger, metacarpophalangeal (joint)
834.12	Open dislocation of finger, interphalangeal (joint), hand
835.01	Closed dislocation of hip, posterior
835.02	Closed dislocation of hip, obtruator
835.03	Closed dislocation of hip, other anterior
835.11	Open dislocation of hip, posterior
835.12	Open dislocation of hip, obtruator
835.13	Open dislocation of hip, other anterior
836.0	Tear of medial cartilage or meniscus of knee, current
836.1	Tear of lateral cartilage or meniscus of knee, current
836.2	Other tear of cartilage or meniscus of knee, current
836.3	Dislocation of patella, closed
836.4	Dislocation of patella, open
836.51	Other dislocation of knee, closed, anterior dislocation of tibia, proximal end
836.52	Other dislocation of knee, closed, posterior dislocation of tibia, proximal end
836.53	Other dislocation of knee, closed, medial dislocation of tibia, proximal end
836.54	Other dislocation of knee, closed, lateral dislocation of tibia, proximal end
836.61	Other dislocation of knee, open, anterior dislocation of tibia, proximal end
836.62	Other dislocation of knee, open, posterior dislocation of tibia, proximal end

836.63	Other dislocation of knee, open, medial dislocation of tibia, proximal end
836.64	Other dislocation of knee, open, lateral dislocation of tibia, proximal end
837.0	Dislocation of ankle, closed
837.1	Dislocation of ankle, open
838.02	Closed dislocation of foot, midtarsal (joint)
838.03	Closed dislocation of foot, tarsometatarsal (joint)
838.05	Closed dislocation of foot, metatarsophangeal (joint)
838.06	Closed dislocation of foot, interphalangeal (joint), foot
838.12	Open dislocation of foot, midtarsal (joint)
838.13	Open dislocation of foot, tarsometatarsal (joint)
838.15	Open dislocation of foot, metatarsophangeal (joint)
838.16	Open dislocation of foot, interphalangeal (joint), foot

Contraindications:

1. Patients with cardiac pacemakers or metallic clips on vascular aneurysms or other metallic implants.
2. Patients requiring life support systems and monitoring devices which employ Ferro magnetic materials (metal that could be magnetized).
3. Patients who have claustrophobia.
4. Patients who have ferrous ocular foreign bodies, imbedded shrapnel fragments or cochlear implants.

Coding Guidelines:

Diagnosis codes other than those listed above will require review for medical necessity and prior authorization..

Documentation Requirements

The ordering physician is responsible for certifying the medical necessity of the procedure. The physician must have documentation in the medical record to support the referral.

Documentation in the progress notes must reflect medical necessity for the MRI.

Medical records can be used in any post-payment review and must include the information necessary to substantiate the need for the procedure.

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