Radiology Services
An essential coding, billing and reimbursement guide for radiology services
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## Glossary
**73000-73030**

**73000** Radiologic examination; clavicle, complete

**73010** scapula, complete

**73020** Radiologic examination, shoulder; 1 view

**73030** complete, minimum of 2 views

**Explanation**

In 73000, films are taken of the clavicle for a complete radiologic examination. The number of films is not specified. The patient is placed supine for a front to back (AP) view and the x-ray is directed to the midpoint and perpendicular to the clavicle. In 73010, films are taken of the scapula for a complete examination. The number of films is not specified. Anteroposterior (AP) and lateral views may be taken. The patient is placed supine for a front to back (AP) view and may be erect or recumbent for a lateral view. The arm is abducted to make a 90-degree angle to the body with the elbow flexed. When the entire shoulder (both clavicle and scapula) are imaged, the patient is supine with the arm extended to a 90 degree angle from the body and externally rotated while the head is turned to face opposite the affected side. Report 73020 for one view only and 73030 specifies a minimum of two views.

**Coding Tips**

These are unilateral procedures. If performed bilaterally, some payers require that the service be reported twice with modifier 50 appended to the second code while others require identification of the service only once with modifier 50 appended. Check with individual payers. Modifier 50 identifies a procedure code while others require identification of the service only once with modifier 50 appended. Check with individual payers. Modifier 50 identifies a procedure code while others require identification of the service only once with modifier 50 appended. Check with individual payers. Modifier 50 identifies a procedure code while others require identification of the service only once with modifier 50 appended. Check with individual payers.

**ICD-10-CM Diagnostic Codes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C41.3</td>
<td>Malignant neoplasm of ribs, sternum and clavicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C79.51</td>
<td>Secondary malignant neoplasm of bone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D16.7</td>
<td>Benign neoplasm of ribs, sternum and clavicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P13.4</td>
<td>Fracture of clavicle due to birth injury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S42.011A</td>
<td>Anterior displaced fracture of sternal end of right clavicle, initial encounter for closed fracture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S42.011B</td>
<td>Anterior displaced fracture of sternal end of right clavicle, initial encounter for open fracture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S42.014A</td>
<td>Posterior displaced fracture of sternal end of right clavicle, initial encounter for closed fracture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S42.014B</td>
<td>Posterior displaced fracture of sternal end of right clavicle, initial encounter for open fracture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S42.017A</td>
<td>Nondisplaced fracture of sternal end of right clavicle, initial encounter for closed fracture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S42.017B</td>
<td>Nondisplaced fracture of sternal end of right clavicle, initial encounter for open fracture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S42.021A</td>
<td>Displaced fracture of shaft of right clavicle, initial encounter for closed fracture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S42.021B</td>
<td>Displaced fracture of shaft of right clavicle, initial encounter for open fracture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Terms To Know**

anteposterior x-ray. X-ray view taken from the front of the body to the back.

lateral. On/to the side.

scapula. Triangular bone commonly referred to as the shoulder blade.

supine. Lying on the back.
Radiopharmaceutical therapy is given to the patient. Code 79005 describes oral administration. The patient swallows the radiolabeled substance prepared in a form to be given by mouth. Code 79101 describes intravenous administration of radiopharmaceuticals. The patient is given a radiolabeled substance prepared in a form to be injected or instilled directly into a vein. The strategy for using radiopharmaceutical therapy is to combine radioactive, beta-particle emitters with relatively short half-lives to specific tissue-seeking molecules that can be administered to the patient. These treatments are designed to target certain types of cancers or malfunctioning tissue. An example is radioactive iodine, I-131, given to the patient orally, to treat thyroid cancers and hormone overproduction (hyperthyroidism) since iodine is specifically taken up by thyroid cells and radioactive phosphorus, P-32, as sodium phosphate administered by intravenous injection. Since phosphorus-32 has a high bone marrow toxicity, it is used for treating polycythemia vera and chronic leukemia to slow the rate at which bone marrow produces cells and induce a state of remission. Code 79200 is for therapy given to the patient via intracavitary administration. Intracavitary radiotherapy refers to the placement of radioactive sources within a body space or cavity, such as the bladder, esophagus, lung, vagina, or uterus, to give high doses of radiation to the cancer, while giving only low doses to the surrounding tissues. An applicator designed for placing the radioactive source within the specific body cavity is inserted and the radiotherapy is administered through the applicator. Code 79300 is for colloid administration interstitially. Colloids are a mixture in which one substance divided into minute, insoluble particles (called colloidal particles) is dispersed uniformly throughout a second substance, the suspension medium. Radioactive colloidal solutions that contain natural or synthetic molecules are relatively impermeable to the vascular membrane and are useful for interstitial radioactive therapy. Interstitial radiopharmaceutical therapy by radioactive colloid administration refers to the placement of this type of radioactive source directly into the affected tissue to give high doses of radiation to the cancer, while giving only low doses to the surrounding tissues. An applicator designed for placing the radioactive source within the specific body cavity is inserted and the radiotherapy is administered through the applicator. An example is inserting plastic tubes into prostate tissue and placing rapid dose radioactive colloid solutions within the tubes. Code 79403 is for mononclonal antibody therapy administered by intravenous infusion. Radiopharmaceutical therapy using radiolabeled monoclonal antibodies infused intravenously is given to the patient as a method of cancer treatment. Monoclonal antibodies are developed from tumor-specific associated antigens and radiolabeled to form a highly stable metal complex. This type of therapy is often called radioimmunotheapy because it combines the very specific targeting capability of a single antibody with the cancer killing power of a radioisotope. The radiolabeled monoclonal antibodies are infused intravenously where they circulate systemically, seeking out the targeted cancer cells, such as in cases of non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, in which this type of radioimmunotheapy has been found effective. This treatment may be done on an outpatient basis, but the patient is observed for immune reaction before discharge. Code 79440 is therapy provided by intra-articular administration. Each episode of joint bleeding causes inflammation and swelling of the synovial membrane. If bleeding occurs often or is not treated adequately, the inflammation may become chronic and can lead to thickening of the synovial membrane and the release of substances that can destroy cartilage and bone. The administration of intraarticular radiopharmaceutical therapy is done to destroy the membrane through radiation, rather than performing a surgical procedure to remove the damaged membrane. A radioactive substance, such as phosphorus-32, is injected into the joint at a time when the patient has not been bleeding, and after a period of prophylactic therapy has already been done to reduce swelling of the membrane as much as possible.

**Coding Tips**

These procedures have both a technical and professional component. To report only the professional component, append modifier 26. To report only the technical component, append modifier TC. To report the complete procedure (i.e., both the professional and technical components), submit without a modifier. Do not report 79101 in addition to 36400, 36410, 79403, 96360, 96374, 96375, or 96409. For non-antibody radioelement solution via infusion or instillation (including 90-day follow up), see 77750. For imaging prior to treatment, see 78802 and 78804. For monoclonal antibody therapy, see 79403. Radiopharmaceuticals may be reported with A9517, A9527, A9530, A9531, A9543, A9663, A9600, and A9604. Check with the specific payer to determine coverage.

**ICD-10-CM Diagnostic Codes**

The application of this code is too broad to adequately present ICD-10-CM diagnostic code links here. Refer to your ICD-10-CM book.

**AMA: 79005 2010, Jan,8; 2017, Jan,8; 2016, Jan,13; 2015, Jan,16; 2014, Jan,11; 2012, Feb,9-10 79101 2018, Jan,8; 2017, Jan,8; 2016, Jan,13; 2015, Jan,16; 2014, Jan,11; 2012, Feb,9-10 79200 2018, Jan,8; 2017, Jan,8; 2016, Jan,13; 2015, Jan,16; 2014, Jan,11; 2012, Feb,9-10 79300 2018, Jan,8; 2017, Jan,8; 2016, Jan,13; 2015, Jan,16; 2014, Jan,11; 2012, Feb,9-10 79403 2018, Jan,8; 2017, Jan,8; 2016, Jan,13; 2015, Jan,16; 2014, Jan,11; 2012, Feb,9-10 79440 2018, Jan,8; 2017, Jan,8; 2016, Jan,13; 2015, Jan,16; 2014, Jan,11; 2012, Feb,9-10**