

SPECIAL eBULLETIN

FOR PROFESSIONAL AND FACILITY PROVIDERS

JUNE 14, 2016

AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS REMOVED FROM CERTAIN "C" CODES

As of Jan. 1, 2016, Highmark no longer requires authorization for certain "C" codes that were previously included in the Radiation Therapy Authorization Program. We implemented the system changes to remove these codes from authorization logic on May 25, 2016. Therefore, claims processed for these codes between Jan. 1, 2016, and May 25, 2016, were denied in error. Highmark is identifying claims that begin with the date of service Jan. 1, 2016, that were rejected due to no authorization. These claims will be adjusted accordingly. There is no need to submit inquiries on these claim denials. The following codes no longer require authorization for Highmark members:

Procedure Code	Procedure Code Description
C1715	Brachytherapy needle
C1716	Brachytherapy seed, gold 198
C1717	Brachytherapy seed, high-dose rate iridium 192
C1719	Brachytherapy seed, non-high-dose rate iridium 192
C1728	Catheter, brachytherapy seed administration
C2616	Brachytherapy source, yttrium-90, per source
C2634	Brachytherapy source, high activity, iodine-125, greater than 1.01 mci (nist), per source
C2635	Brachytherapy source, high activity, palladium-103, greater than 2.2 mci (nist), per source
C2636	Brachytherapy linear source, palladium-103, per 1 mm
C2637	Brachytherapy source, ytterbium-169, per source
C2638	Brachytherapy source, stranded, iodine-125, per source
C2639	Brachytherapy source, non-stranded, iodine-125, per source
C2640	Brachytherapy source, stranded, palladium-103, per source
C2641	Brachytherapy source, non-stranded, palladium-103, per source
C2642	Brachytherapy source, stranded, cesium-131, per source
C2643	Brachytherapy source, non-stranded, cesium-131, per source
C2698	Brachytherapy source, stranded, not otherwise specified, per source
C2699	Brachytherapy source, non-stranded, not otherwise specified, per source
C9725	Placement of endorectal intracavitary applicator for high-intensity brachytherapy
C9726	Placement and removal (if performed) of applicator into breast for radiation therapy



Providers should use NaviNet® or the applicable HIPAA electronic transactions to check member benefits and eligibility to verify if an authorization is required. The Radiation Therapy Authorization Program Administrative Guide will be updated soon to reflect the current list of codes that require authorization under this program. The Administrative Guide can be located under **Clinical Reference Materials** on the Provider Resource Center.

Highmark is identifying claims that were rejected in error and is adjusting them accordingly. You do not need to call to request an adjustment.