

The road to

# APPROPRIATE USE CRITERIA

\*(AUC) as of the November 2017 PFS Final Rule

## July 2018

Voluntary period begins for early adopters to start reporting AUC information.

## July 2020

Educational testing period begins, where ordering providers must consult AUC but no claims will be denied for improper AUC information.

## January 2021

CMS will begin to deny/audit claims with incorrect AUC information.

**AUC** = The proper policy name and the sets of criteria

**CDS** = The unofficial policy name and the interface used to access the sets of criteria



### Appropriate Use Criteria

The proper name for the overall policy. It also refers to the various sets of criteria developed by provider-led entities that will assist professionals when ordering images.



### Provider-led Entities

The medical specialty societies or organizations comprised primarily of providers that create and maintain the various appropriate use criteria.



### CDS Mechanisms

The software or module that ordering professionals must consult AUC through before ordering an applicable advanced diagnostic imaging service.

**Provider-Led Entities** maintain the **Appropriate Use Criteria**, which is accessed through the **Clinical Decision Support Mechanisms**.



### Things to Consider

#### Medicare Patients

Applies to designated outpatient advanced imaging exams for Medicare patients.

#### Emergent Imaging

To avoid unnecessary delays in care, emergent imaging will be exempt from the policy.



### Reporting Requirements

All applicable imaging claims will need the following AUC data elements:

- CDSM used
- Whether the exam adhered, did not adhere, or was not applicable to the AUC
- NPI of ordering professional



### Coming Soon

CMS is developing a "unique consultation identifier" with stakeholders that will allow furnishing professionals to communicate the required AUC data elements to CMS.



### Qualified Provider-Led Entities

- American College of Cardiology Foundation <sup>\* as of June 2017</sup>
- American College of Radiology
- Banner University Medical Group-Tucson University of Arizona
- CDI Quality Institute
- Cedars-Sinai Health System
- Intermountain Healthcare
- Massachusetts General Hospital, Department of Radiology
- Medical Guidelines Institute
- Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network
- Sage Evidence-based Medicine & Practice Institute
- Society for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
- University of California Medical Campuses
- University of Utah Health
- University of Washington School of Medicine
- Virginia Mason Medical Center
- Weill Cornell Medicine Physicians Organization



### Qualified CDS Mechanisms

- AIM Specialty Health ProviderPortal® <sup>\* as of Nov. 2017</sup>
- Applied Pathways CURION™ Platform
- Cranberry Peak ezCDS
- eviCore healthcare's Clinical Decision Support Mechanism
- Medicalis Clinical Decision Support Mechanism
- National Decision Support Company CareSelect™
- National Imaging Associates RadMD
- Sage Health Management Solutions Inc. RadWise®
- Test Appropriate CDSM



### CDS Mechanisms with Preliminary Qualification

- Cerner CDS mechanism <sup>\* as of Nov. 2017</sup>
- Evinance Decision Support
- Flying Aces Speed of Care Decision Support
- LogicNets' Decision Engines
- MedCurrent OrderWise™
- Reliant Medical Group CDSM
- Stanson Health's CDSM