The road to **APPROPRIATE USE CRITERIA**

*"AUC" as of the 2019 PFS Final Rule*

### July 2018

Voluntary period begins for early adopters to report that CDMS was consulted with modifier QQ.

### January 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.

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**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

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#### Reporting Requirements

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

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

CMS will develop G-codes and modifiers to report this information. G-codes will indicate which CDMS was used and modifiers will indicate if the order adheres, did not adhere, or is not applicable to AUC.

CMS will also develop modifiers to indicate if an exemption to the policy applies.

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#### Things to Consider

- **Medicare Patients**
  - Applies to designated outpatient advanced imaging exams for Medicare patients.

- **Emergent Imaging**
  - Exempt from AUC consultation requirements if the patient is deemed to be in an "emergency medical condition" as defined in Sec. 1867(e)(1) of the Social Security Act.

- **Critical Access Hospitals (CAH)**
  - Exempt from AUC Program

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#### Qualified Provider-Led Entities

- American College of Cardiology Foundation
- 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

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#### CDS Mechanisms

- AIM Specialty Health ProviderPortal®
- Applied Pathways CURION™ Platform
- Cranberry Peak ezCDMS
- eviCore healthcare's Clinical Decision Support Mechanism
- MedCurrent OrderWise™
- Medicalis Clinical Decision Support Mechanism
- National Decision Support Company CareSelect™
- National Imaging Associates RadMD
- Sage Health Management Solutions Inc. RadWise®
- University Health's StanSon CDS
- Test Appropriate CDSM

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**Qualified CDS Mechanisms**

- Cerner CDS mechanism
- Evinance Decision Support
- Flying Aces Speed of Care Decision Support
- Infinx CDMS
- LogicNet's Decision Engines
- New Century Health's CarePro
- Reliant Medical Group CDSM

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**Critical Access Hospitals (CAH)**

Exempt from AUC Program

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