

CMQ97-008

Protocol for Ova and Parasite Testing of Stool Samples

Minute of Commission # 97-0003

Acceptance of Protocol for Ova and Parasite Testing of Stool Samples

Pursuant to Section 4 and Section 32(4) of the *Medicare Protection Act*, the following protocol will apply with respect to the Medical Services Commission *Payment Schedule*:

Services relating to the examination of stool specimens for helminths and protozoa (stools for ova and parasite testing) will be considered a benefit under the Medical Services Plan only when rendered in conformity with the *Protocol for Ova and Parasite Testing of Stool Samples*, appended*.

This protocol will be used in the determination of benefits payable under the *Medicare Protection Act*.

Effective June 1, 1997.

*Protocol distributed March 1997

CMQ97-009

Protocol for the Use of Serum Ferritin and Total Iron and Iron Binding Capacity

Minute of Commission #97-0004

Acceptance of Protocol for the Use of Serum Ferritin and Total Iron and Iron Binding Capacity

Pursuant to Section 4 and Section 32(4) of the *Medicare Protection Act*, the following protocol will apply with respect to the Medical Services Commission *Payment Schedule*:

Services relating to the referral of samples to laboratories for serum ferritin and/or total iron and iron binding capacity will be considered a benefit under the Medical Services Plan only when rendered in conformity with the *Protocol for Use of Serum Ferritin and Total Iron and Iron Binding Capacity*, appended*.

This protocol will be used in the determination of benefits payable under the *Medicare Protection Act*.

Effective June 1, 1997.

*Protocol distributed March 1997

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CMQ97-010

Protocol for the Investigation of Metastatic Bone Disease in Newly Diagnosed Prostate Cancer Using Nuclear Medicine Techniques

Minute of Commission # 97-017

Acceptance of Protocol for the Investigation of Metastatic Bone Disease in Newly Diagnosed Prostate Cancer Using Nuclear Medicine Techniques

Pursuant to Section 4 and Section 32(4) of the *Medicare Protection Act*, the following protocol will apply with respect to the Medical Services Commission *Payment Schedule*:

Services relating to the investigation of metastatic bone disease in newly diagnosed prostate cancer using Nuclear Medicine techniques will be considered a benefit under the Medical Services Plan only when rendered in conformity with the *Protocol for the Investigation of Metastatic Bone Disease in Newly Diagnosed Prostate Cancer Using Nuclear Medicine Techniques*, appended*.

This protocol will be used in the determination of benefits payable under the *Medicare Protection Act*.

Effective July 1, 1997.

* Protocol distributed April, 1997

Note: Copies of protocols are available through the Medical Care Programs Info-by-Fax line at (250) 356-9644, or by calling MSP Claims Billing Support at (250) 952-2670.

CMQ97-011

Age Limitation on the Applicability of Protocols

Minute of Commission #97-010

Age Limitation on the Applicability of Protocols

Pursuant to Sections 19(1) and 32(4) of the *Medicare Protection Act*, the Medical Services Commission hereby directs that all protocols developed by the Protocol Steering Committee apply only to beneficiaries 17 years of age or over, unless otherwise specified in a particular protocol.

Dated February 27, 1997.

CMQ97-012

Moratorium on Recoveries from Protocol Audits

In order to allow physicians and diagnostic facilities reasonable time to modify practice patterns subsequent to the adoption of protocols, the Medical Services Commission has approved a moratorium on the recovery of MSP funds from the auditing of a protocol for a period of six months from the date on which a protocol is implemented (effective date as stated in the Minute of Commission). Physicians are advised to implement protocols in accordance with the effective date to ensure that alterations in their practice are completed within the approved transition period, and to avoid potential recovery of funds through audit.