

Internal Medicine Coding Alert

Reader Question: Reviewing X-rays and CAT Scans

Question: Can you bill for reviewing x-rays and CAT scans done elsewhere?

Anonymous OH subscriber

Answer: Reviewing x-rays and CAT scans is billable only if the physician is the interpreting physicianthe physician looking at the x-rays in order to establish a diagnosis and determine treatment. Otherwise, it will be denied as a duplicate of the interpreting physicians charge. However, reviewing x-rays can be used to gain additional credit for complexity of medical decision-making when reporting the E/M level for the overall visit.