

November 1, 2019

**Re: AIM Specialty Health Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines update – Radiation Therapy**

Dear Provider:

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and our subsidiary company, HMO Nevada (Anthem), is writing to inform you of the following updates to the AIM Specialty Health® (AIM) Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines. AIM is a separate company.

Effective for dates of service on and after February 9, 2020, the following updates will apply to the AIM Radiation Therapy Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines.

- Special Treatment Procedure and Special Physics Consult
  - Removed oral cone endocavitary indication
- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT), Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS) or Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT) for bone metastases
  - Broadened description of adjacent normal tissues which may be of concern.
- Single fraction treatment
  - Removed poor performance status criteria
- Central Nervous System cancers
  - Added evidence review
- Spine Lesions; Primary or Metastatic Lesions of the Spine, Metastatic Lesions in the Lung
  - Added note calling out separate criteria for curative intent treatment of extracranial oligometastatic disease.
- SBRT in the treatment of extracranial oligometastatic disease
  - Added new section with discussion and indications
- Prostate cancer – hypofractionation
  - Added fractionation guideline with EBRT/IMRT.
- Prostate cancer – postoperative radiotherapy and SBRT
  - Added indication based on ASTRO/ASCO/AUA recommendation
- Prostate cancer – use of hydrogel spacer
  - Added discussion and medical necessity statement about hydrogel spacers for prostate irradiation
- CPT code changes
  - Added 77316, 77295 and 55874
  - Removed 77427

As a reminder, ordering and servicing providers may submit pre-certification requests to AIM in one of several ways:

- Access AIM **ProviderPortal<sub>SM</sub>** directly at [providerportal.com](http://providerportal.com). Online access is available 24/7 to process orders in real-time, and is the fastest and most convenient way to request authorization.

- Access AIM via the Availity Web Portal at [availity.com](http://availity.com)
- Call the AIM Contact Center toll-free number: 877-291-0366, Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. PT.

For questions related to guideline updates, please contact AIM via email at [aim.guidelines@aimspecialtyhealth.com](mailto:aim.guidelines@aimspecialtyhealth.com). To access and download a copy of the current and upcoming guidelines, go to: <http://www.aimspecialtyhealth.com/ClinicalGuidelines.html>.

Please note, this program does not apply to FEP or National Accounts

We value and appreciate you as our partner in providing quality care, and appreciate your continued participation in our network.

Sincerely,



Allen Marino, M.D.  
Medical Director  
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield