

Subject: Pelvis MRA, (72198)		Original Effective Date: 9/19/17
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This Molina Clinical Review (MCR) is intended to facilitate the Utilization Management process. It expresses Molina's determination as to whether certain services or supplies are medically necessary, experimental, investigational, or cosmetic for purposes of determining appropriateness of payment. The conclusion that a particular service or supply is medically necessary does not constitute a representation or warranty that this service or supply is covered (i.e., will be paid for by Molina) for a particular member. The member's benefit plan determines coverage. Each benefit plan defines which services are covered, which are excluded, and which are subject to dollar caps or other limits. Members and their providers will need to consult the member's benefit plan to determine if there are any exclusion(s) or other benefit limitations applicable to this service or supply. If there is a discrepancy between this policy and a member's plan of benefits, the benefits plan will govern. In addition, coverage may be mandated by applicable legal requirements of a State, the Federal government or CMS for Medicare and Medicaid members. CMS's Coverage Database can be found on the CMS website. The coverage directive(s) and criteria from an existing National Coverage Determination (NCD) or Local Coverage Determination (LCD) will supersede the contents of this Molina Clinical Review (MCR) document and provide the directive for all Medicare members.

DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURE/SERVICE/PHARMACEUTICAL

Magnetic Resonance Angiography (MRA) is a non- X-ray (no ionizing radiation) imaging scan that uses a strong magnetic field and radiofrequency waves to produce detailed images of vascular structures. MRA may be performed either without or with the injection of (gadolinium) contrast material into a vein. MRA images are electronically processed to remove surrounding non-vascular anatomy, so that only the arteries or veins of interest are displayed. These vascular images can be reconstructed and rotated in different planes. MRA can sometimes replace or can be used to supplement conventional invasive catheter angiography.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Duplex ultrasonography is frequently the study of choice for initial evaluation and surveillance for many clinical scenarios involving the vasculature of the pelvis.

Aneurysm/Dissection

- For evaluation of a known or suspected aneurysm and ultrasound was indeterminate
- For follow up evaluation of an iliac aneurysm and repair is being considered (generally aneurysms \geq 3cm)
- For evaluation of a known aneurysm and having new symptoms (E.g. pain)
- For evaluation of known or suspected dissection

Embolism or other occlusions

- For evaluation of suspected embolism or thrombus of the pelvis (E.g. IVC thrombosis) and ultrasound has been performed

- For evaluation of known or suspected vasculitis (e.g. Takayasu's arteritis)

Fistula/AVM

- For evaluation of known or suspected arteriovenous malformation or fistula

Stenosis

- For evaluation of known or suspected vascular disease
- For evaluation of ischemic colitis
- For evaluation of mesenteric ischemia

Differentiate between vascular and nonvascular tumors

- To evaluate for vascular invasion or displacement by tumor

Evaluate hemorrhage or trauma

- To evaluate the source of hemorrhage or vascular compromise due to trauma

Congenital

- To evaluate congenital disorders of the blood vessels involving the pelvis

Other

- For evaluation of a vascular abnormality seen on other imaging and additional clarification is required
- For evaluation of pelvic congestion syndrome.

Pre/Post Procedural

- Pre-operative/ Pre procedural evaluation when blood vessel detail is needed. (E.g. uterine fibroid embolization)
- Post-operative/Post-procedural for routine recommended follow up or for potential post-operative complications.
- A repeat study may be needed to help evaluate a patient's progress after treatment procedure intervention or surgery. The reason for the repeat study and that it will affect care must be clear.

Combination requests

- Abdomen MRA and Pelvic MRA is appropriate for evaluation of an aortic dissection or aneurysm.

ADDITIONAL CRITICAL INFORMATION

The above medical necessity recommendations are used to determine the best diagnostic study based on a patient's specific clinical circumstances. The recommendations were developed using evidence based studies and current accepted clinical practices. Medical necessity will be determined using a combination of these recommendations as well as the patient's individual clinical or social circumstances.

- Tests that will not change treatment plans should not be recommended.
- Same or similar tests recently completed need a specific reason for repeat imaging.

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