***Commonwealth of Massachusetts***

***Executive Office of Health and Human Services***

***Office of Medicaid***

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MassHealth

# All Provider Bulletin 308

February 2021

**TO**: All Providers Participating in MassHealth

**FROM**: Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth [signature of Daniel Tsai]

RE: MassHealth Third Party Prior Authorization Administrator Temporary Suspension

## Prior Authorization Requirements for Certain Advanced Imaging Services, Non-Obstetric Ultrasounds, Polysomnography, and Cardiology Services: *Temporary Suspension*

Through Transmittal Letters AOH-45, CHC-113, PHY-157, and IDTF-20, MassHealth introduced new prior authorization (PA) requirements on certain advanced imaging services, non-obstetric ultrasounds, polysomnography, and cardiology services. Additionally, through those Transmittal Letters, MassHealth directed providers seeking PA for those services to submit those requests to eviCore healthcare (eviCore), in accordance with instructions set forth in each Transmittal Letter. Providers were instructed to begin submitting prior authorization requests to eviCore starting in March 2020, and claims denials related to these prior authorization requirements were scheduled to begin in June 2020.

As a result of the pandemic caused by the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), MassHealth has not begun claims denials related to these PA requirements. Some providers have continued to submit PA requests during this period and have received responses for informational purposes.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, through this bulletin, MassHealth has suspended the PA policy set forth in Transmittal Letters AOH-45, CHC-113, PHY-157, and IDTF-20.

Specifically, through this bulletin:

* MassHealth will not require PA for the advanced imaging services, non-obstetric ultrasounds, polysomnography, and cardiology services identified in Transmittal Letters AOH-45, CHC-113, PHY-157, and IDTF-20 (each of the codes is reprinted below for reference); and
* Providers should not submit requests for PA for such services to eviCore.

MassHealth anticipates that it will implement PA requirements for some or all of these services at a later date, and will issue further guidance with advance notice before such policies go into effect.

## Advanced Imaging CPT Codes No Longer Requiring PA

70336

70450

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## Non-obstetric Ultrasound CPT Codes No Longer Requiring PA

78453

78454

78459

78466

78469

78472

78473

78481

78483

78496

## Polysomnography (Sleep) Studies CPT Codes No Longer Requiring PA

95782

95783

95800

95805

95806

95807

95808

95810

95811

G0399

## Cardiac Stress Tests CPT Codes No Longer Requiring PA

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93351

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## Questions

If you have questions about the information in this bulletin, please contact the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, email your inquiry to providersupport@mahealth.net, or fax your inquiry to (617) 988-8974.