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# SHP Iron Quantification with Magnetic Resonance Imaging

AUTH: SHP Imaging 16 v5 (AC)

**MCG Health**  
Ambulatory Care  
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## Coverage

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See the appropriate benefit document for specific coverage determination. Member specific benefits take precedence over medical policy.

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## Application to Products

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- Policy is applicable to all products.

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## Authorization Requirements

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Pre-certification by the Plan is required.

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## Description of Item or Service

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Magnetic resonance iron quantification is a non-invasive imaging study that quantifies the concentration of iron within the liver and additional storage organs, a key indicator in the management of patients with hemochromatosis. Other names for Iron Quantification with Magnetic Resonance Imaging include but are not limited to, Liver iron concentration (LIC) imaging companion diagnostic, FerriScan, R2 MRI, liver iron concentration MRI, R2 Relaxometry, Liversmart, FerriSmart, Liver MRI T2 and LiverMultiScan.

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## Exceptions and Limitations

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- There is insufficient scientific evidence to support the medical necessity of FerriScan R2 Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Analysis for uses other than those listed in the clinical indications for procedure section.

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## Clinical Indications for Procedure

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- Iron Quantification with Magnetic Resonance Imaging is considered medically necessary with **1 or more** of the following :
  - Individual is under 21 years of age with **ALL** of the following:
    - Individual is a candidate for chelation therapy.
    - Laboratory tests (e.g. serum ferritin, serum transferrin, etc.) are not sufficient to determine an appropriate treatment plan and the results of the scan will directly impact the treatment provided to the individual.
    - Individual has diagnosis of **1 or more** of the following::
      - Hereditary Hemochromatosis with **1 or more** of the following:
        - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 1000 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
        - Individual's transferrin saturation (TSAT) level is greater than 45%.
      - Myelodysplastic Syndrome with **ALL** of the following:
        - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 1000 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
        - Individual has received more than 20 units of packed red blood cells from long term transfusion therapy.
      - Porphyrin metabolism disorder in which the serum ferritin level is greater than 25 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
      - Sickle Cell Disease with **ALL** of the following:
        - Individual is over the age of 2 years old.
        - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 1000 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).

- Individual has received more than 20 units of packed red blood cells from long term transfusion therapy.
- Thalassemia Major with **ALL** of the following:
  - Individual is over the age of 2 years old.
  - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 1000 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
  - Individual has received more than 10 units of packed red blood cells from long term transfusion therapy.
- Thalassemia Intermedia with **ALL** of the following:
  - Individual is over the age of 4 years old.
  - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 400 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
- Individual is 21 years of age or older with **ALL** of the following:
  - Individual has a documented contraindication to liver biopsy.
  - Individual is a candidate for chelation therapy.
  - Laboratory tests (e.g. serum ferritin, serum transferrin, etc.) are not sufficient to determine an appropriate treatment plan and the results of the scan will directly impact the treatment provided to the individual.
  - Individual has **1 or more** of the following:
    - Hereditary Hemochromatosis with **1 or more** of the following:
      - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 1000 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
      - Individual's transferrin saturation (TSAT) level is greater than 45%.
    - Myelodysplastic Syndrome with **ALL** of the following:
      - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 1000 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
      - Individual has received more than 20 units of packed red blood cells from long term transfusion therapy.
    - Porphyrin metabolism disorder in which the serum ferritin level is greater than 25 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
    - Sickle Cell Disease with **ALL** of the following:
      - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 1000 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
      - Individual has received more than 20 units of packed red blood cells from long term transfusion therapy.
    - Thalassemia Major with **ALL** of the following:
      - Individual's serum ferritin level is greater than or equal to 1000 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).
      - Individual has received more than 10 units of packed red blood cells from long term transfusion therapy.
    - Thalassemia Intermedia with a serum ferritin level greater than or equal to 400 ng/ml (demonstrated within the last 12 months).

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## Document History

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- Revised Dates:
  - 2022: April, May
  - 2019: October
  - 2015: December
- Reviewed Dates:
  - 2023: March
  - 2021: May
  - 2020: June
  - 2019: January
  - 2018: January
  - 2017: February
  - 2016: March
  - 2015: November
  - 2013: November
- Effective Date: July 2013

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## Coding Information

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- CPT/HCPCS codes covered if policy criteria is met:
  - CPT 0648T - Quantitative magnetic resonance for analysis of tissue composition (eg, fat, iron, water content), including multiparametric data acquisition, data preparation and transmission, interpretation and report, obtained without diagnostic MRI examination of the same anatomy (eg, organ, gland, tissue, target structure) during the same session; single organ
  - CPT 0649T - Quantitative magnetic resonance for analysis of tissue composition (eg, fat, iron, water content), including multiparametric data acquisition, data preparation and transmission, interpretation and report, obtained with diagnostic MRI examination of the same anatomy (eg, organ, gland, tissue, target structure); single organ (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
  - CPT 0697T - Quantitative magnetic resonance for analysis of tissue composition (eg, fat, iron, water content), including multiparametric data acquisition, data preparation and transmission, interpretation and report, obtained without diagnostic MRI examination of the same anatomy (eg, organ, gland, tissue, target structure) during the same session; multiple organs
  - CPT 0698T - Quantitative magnetic resonance for analysis of tissue composition (eg, fat, iron, water content), including multiparametric data acquisition, data preparation and transmission, interpretation and report, obtained with diagnostic MRI examination of the same anatomy (eg, organ, gland, tissue, target structure); multiple organs (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
  - CPT 76498 - Unlisted magnetic resonance procedure (eg, diagnostic, interventional)
- CPT/HCPCS codes considered not medically necessary per this Policy:
  - None

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## References

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References used include but are not limited to the following:

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## Codes

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**CPT® : 0648T, 0649T, 0697T, 0698T, 76498**

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