



Clinical Decision Support Mechanism (CDSM) & Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC)

BACKGROUND

Beginning 1/1/20 the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) requires physicians who order imaging tests to consult a qualified Clinical Decision Support Mechanism (CDSM).

WHAT IS CDSM?

A CDSM is an interactive, electronic tool for use by clinicians that communicates Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) information to the user and assists them in making the most appropriate treatment decision regarding ordering imaging tests for a patient's specific condition during the patient's workup.

HOW DOES THIS IMPACT ME?

Under this program, when you order an advanced imaging service in Powerchart or Cerner Ambulatory you will be required to consult a qualified Clinical Decision Support Mechanism (CDSM).

WHAT IMAGING SERVICES DOES THIS APPLY TO?

- Computed Tomography (CT)
- Positron Emission Tomography (PET)
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)
- Nuclear Medicine (NM)

WHAT TYPES OF PATIENTS DOES THIS APPLY TO?

This program applies to patients who receive imaging in the following settings:

- Inpatients, Observation Patients, ER Patients
- Physician offices
- Hospital outpatient departments
- Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs)
- Independent diagnostic testing facilities

HOW DO I ACCESS THE CDSM and AUC?

If you use Cerner as your EMR System, then the CDS and AUC will be built in and incorporated into the ordering process. The program is called ACR Select. You will receive training on how to incorporate CDS into your ordering process.

If you order imaging exams, but do not use Cerner as your EMR System, then UHS will work with your office to develop a system for you to order imaging studies and consult a CDSM. Most likely this will involve going to an external 3rd party website to access AUC.

WHAT IF I DO NOT ACCESS THE CDSM?

Ordering physicians who do not consult CDSM will be flagged and may have additional pre-authorization requirements for Medicare patients in the future. Beginning in 2021 the imaging exam will not be reimbursed for the technical or professional component if the CDSM is not consulted.

WHO DO I CALL WITH QUESTIONS?

For other questions or for general help, please call Michael Langenberg with University Radiology at 865-803-2973