

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 6.3
TITLE: GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT FLUOROSCOPIC STUDY

AUTHORITY: 38 USC 1713; 38 CFR 17.270(a) and 17.272(a)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(b) and (c)

TRICARE POLICY MANUAL: Chapter 4, Section 2.4

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

October 12, 1984

II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

74210-74249

III. DESCRIPTION

The gastrointestinal study is a fluoroscopic procedure performed for the detection and evaluation of disorders of the pharynx, cervical esophagus/esophagus, stomach and duodenum. Single contrast images are created with effervescent agents or the production of air. Cineradiography or video-fluoroscopy (74230) is the motion picture record of images produced during fluoroscopic examination and, in addition to the standard barium meal, has aided in detecting disorders (e.g., esophageal webs) and in assessing motor disorders (e.g., cricopharyngeal spasm and achalasia).

IV. POLICY

A. An upper gastrointestinal study is not indicated in the follow-up assessment of the asymptomatic patient treated for duodenal ulcer.

B. An upper gastrointestinal study is not indicated in the preoperative cholecystectomy patient unless symptoms suggest an upper gastrointestinal abnormality in addition to the documented gallbladder dysfunction.

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V. EXCLUSIONS

Video-fluoroscopy/cineradiography is not covered when used in the treatment of a speech impairment unless the impairment is suspected to be caused by a physical defect/disorder.

END OF POLICY