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## ***Imaging Consultation Services***

### **Palmer Imaging Consultation Services**

#### **Insurance Billing/Fee Structures**

##### **Letter of Understanding**

Dear Dr.

As you are aware, most insurance companies, including BCBS, maintain a policy that *only one* interpretation of a diagnostic test or X-ray will be reimbursed.

There are two fees involved with any diagnostic imaging examination; the technical and professional component. The technical component bills for the clinical production of the x-ray/radiograph and is designated with a “-TC” modifier. The professional component bills for the interpretation of the x-ray/radiograph and is designated with a “-26” modifier.

##### ***PICS provides flexible billing options:***

1. Chiropractor bills for taking the x-rays and PICS bills for interpreting the x-rays.
  - a. A TC modifier **MUST** be applied to the appropriate CPT code by the chiropractor. (If this is not done, the insurance company will assume the chiropractor is billing for a global fee.)
  - b. PICS will bill the insurance company for the professional (interpretation) component using a PC/-26 modifier.
  - c. The patient is responsible for any amounts owed but not collected from the insurance company.
  - d. *Example: Production of 2v lumbar spine x-rays without interpretation billed for by chiropractor:*
    - i. *Chiropractor bills for the technical component: 72100-TC*
    - ii. *PICS bills for production of report: 72100-26*
2. Chiropractor bills the insurance as a global charge,
  - a. In this case, PICS cannot bill separately for the Professional/Interpretation component.
  - b. PICS will not bill the patient or patient’s insurance, but will bill the referring doctor the consultation fee.
  - c. *Example: If your office performs a 2v lumbar study and bills the procedure as 72100 (WITHOUT a TC MODIFIER) this indicates that the service includes the production of the x-rays and the radiology report.*
3. Chiropractor by agreement compensates PICS directly for services. Generally this will result in a 20% POS DISCOUNT. Contact PICS for more information regarding this option. Many doctors find it convenient to place a credit card # on file with PICS.

Thank you.

*Ian D. McLean DC DACBR*

***To complete this communication, please sign and return (or fax) a copy of this letter.***

Dr. \_\_\_\_\_

Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_