77336: Maintaining the strength of the Continuing Medical Physics Consultation CPT© code.

The Continuing Medical Physics Consultation CPT© code (77336) is one of only two codes that explicitly recognize the work effort of the Medical Physicist in the title and text. It provides the foundation for the reimbursement of clinical medical physics services in radiation oncology departments. As the complexity of the work done by the Medical Physicist increases, the valuation of this code has been decreasing. In this presentation, we will review the components of the work process that give rise to the code, the process by which the code is assigned a relative value, the recent changes to the valuation in both the Hospital Outpatient Payment system and the Medicare Fee Schedule, and strategies for returning the value of the code to an appropriate level.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the components of the work effort associated with the Continuing Medical Physics Consultation CPT© code (77336)
2. Understand how the code is valued and priced by Medicare
3. Offer opinions and comments on strategies to properly value the CPT© code 77336
4. Implement procedures in the clinic that properly reflect the description of the code provided by AAPM and ASTRO