The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) revised the IMRT billing instructions in the Medicare Transmittal regarding the April Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (HOPPS) Update. The revised language is based on ASTRO’s recommendation (see below).

Payment for the services identified by CPT codes 77014, 77280, 77285, 77290, 77295, 77305 through 77321, 77331, and 77370 are included in the APC payment for CPT code 77301 (IMRT planning). These codes should not be reported in addition to CPT code 77301 when provided prior to or as part of the development of the IMRT plan.

Prior to this change, the 2016 language stated that the codes listed could never be reported during a course of IMRT. Examples include VSims, special medical physics consultations, etc. Billing consultants as well as ASTRO advised that you could no longer bill for the above codes (including special medical physics consult) during the course of therapy for IMRT, even if it was not part of the planning process. The revised language now allows other services provided during the course of treatment to be reported separately, when not prior to or part of the development of the IMRT plan.