



**PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR**

No. 37, s-2006

**TO : ALL MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM, ACCREDITED HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : Clarification on Payment of Professional Fees for Radiology and Pathology Services**

This Circular is issued to facilitate correct assignments of relative value units (RVU) for radiology and pathology services included in the Relative Value Scale.

1. Radiology (RVS code 70000 series) and/or pathology (RVS code 80000 series) services performed in conjunction with other surgical procedures (RVS code 10000 - 60000 series) are considered separate and distinct. For this reason, radiology and pathology services are to be paid in addition to payment for professional fees for the surgery.

Example 1:

CODE	PROCEDURE	RVU	PROFESSIONAL FEE (PF)
19120	Excision of breast mass (Surgeon)	25	1,000 pesos
88331	Pathology consultation during surgery with frozen section (Pathologist)	20	800 pesos

Example 2:

CODE	PROCEDURE	RVU	PROFESSIONAL FEE (PF)
36200	Introduction of catheter aorta (Surgeon)	25	1,000 pesos
75680	Bilateral common carotid angiography, cervical (Radiologist)	50	2,000 pesos

2. However, for multiple procedures performed by a radiologist in one operative session, only the procedure with the highest RVU shall be paid.

Example 3:

CODE	PROCEDURE	RVU	PROFESSIONAL FEE (PF)	FINAL PF
36200	Introduction of catheter aorta (Surgeon)	25	1,000 pesos	1,000 pesos
75680	Bilateral common carotid angiography, cervical (Radiologist)	50	2,000 pesos	2,000 pesos
75671	Bilateral internal carotid angiography, cerebral (Radiologist)	50	2,000 pesos	

3. In the interest of patient safety, radiology services (such as angiography, radiation treatment delivery) shall only be provided by adequately trained radiologists. In line with this, claims for professional fees for these procedures shall only be paid to PhilHealth-accredited radiologists.
4. Claims for professional fees for radiology services of non-accredited radiologist shall not be reimbursed.
5. In addition, claims for professional fees for pathology services shall also be paid only to PhilHealth-accredited pathologists. Claims for professional fees for pathology services of non-accredited pathologist shall not be reimbursed.
6. Accredited radiologist and pathologist are identified by the new accreditation number convention listed in Annex A of PhilHealth Circular No. 11, s-2005:

SUB-CLASSIFICATION	FIRST FOUR NUMBERS OF NEW NUMBER CONVENTION
Diplomate / Fellow member of Philippine Society of Pathologists	1206
Diplomate / Fellow member of Philippine College of Radiology	1207

This Circular shall be applied to all claims with admission dates starting February 1, 2007. All other rules and guidelines not contrary hereto shall remain in full force and effect.

For your information and guidance.

**(Sgd.) LORNA O. FAJARDO**  
 Acting President and CEO

Date Signed: December 6, 2006