

Outpatient prenatal ultrasound coverage 2023

Wellpoint covers CPT® codes 76801, 76802, 76805, 76810, 76811, 76812, 76815, 76816, and 76817 for outpatient prenatal ultrasounds for our pregnant members. This policy communication is limited to the CPT codes specified here. Please refer to *Clinical Utilization Management Guideline Maternal Ultrasound in the Outpatient Setting (CG-Med-42)* on the provider website for detailed medical necessity criteria for maternal ultrasound.

Wellpoint will cover one routine prenatal ultrasound for fetal anatomic survey per pregnancy (**76801, 76805**). Additional ultrasounds billed with procedure codes **76811, 76812, 76815, 76816, and 76817** for suspected maternal/fetal abnormality or follow-up will require an appropriate corresponding diagnosis code indicating medical necessity. Without appropriate diagnosis codes supportive of medical necessity, ultrasounds for procedural codes **76811, 76812, 76815, 76816, and 76817** will not be reimbursed. *This policy does not apply to ultrasounds performed by maternal fetal medicine specialists, in hospital settings, or by radiology providers.*

This policy is based on medical necessity, consideration of nationally accepted medical practice standards, review of medical literature, and state approval. In creating this policy, we referred to the *American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) Practice Bulletin, Number 101, February 2009 — Ultrasonography in Pregnancy*. According to this bulletin, ultrasonography in pregnancy should be employed only when there is a valid medical indication. Specifically, the ACOG practice bulletin states, “The use of either two-dimensional or three-dimensional ultrasonography only to view the fetus, obtain a picture of the fetus, or determine the fetal sex without a medical indication is inappropriate and contrary to responsible medical practice.”

We’ve included a **list of the prenatal ultrasound procedure codes** with their corresponding medically necessary diagnosis codes. We hope this information is helpful to you. If you have questions regarding prenatal ultrasound coverage or utilization management processes, please contact our Health Care Networks team. Refer to the *Contact Us* section at the bottom of our **provider website**. We appreciate your commitment to the health of our members.