

## Provider Checklist-Outpatient -Imaging

### **Checklist: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Elbow (CPT Code: 73221, 73222, 73223)**

All Indications [**\*One has to be present**]

**\*Chronic monarticular joint pain [All have to be present]**

Symptoms at elbow [**One has to be present**]

Joint pain  
Locking

Findings at elbow [**Two have to be present**]

Pain with passive ROM  
Limited ROM  
Tenderness  
Crepitus  
Joint effusion/swelling

Elbow x-ray nondiagnostic for etiology of pain  
Continued symptoms after Rx [**Both have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

-1 Rx  $\geq$  4 wks  
-2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

OT/PT  $\geq$  6 wks

**\*Suspected intra-articular loose body [All have to be present]**

Symptoms at elbow [One has to be present]

Joint pain  
212 Locking

Findings at elbow [**Two have to be present**]

Pain with passive ROM  
Limited ROM

Clicking/crepitus

Elbow x-ray nondiagnostic for loose body

\*Suspected avascular necrosis (osteonecrosis), radial head [**All have to be present**]

Elbow pain

Pain with passive ROM

Elbow x-ray nondiagnostic for avascular necrosis

Radial head fracture/nonunion of fracture by imaging

Continued pain after immobilization  $\geq$  6 wks

\*Suspected osteomyelitis [**Both have to be present**]

Findings [**One has to be present**]

ESR > 30 mm/hr

Temperature > 100.4 F(38.0 C)

WBC > 10,000/cu.mm( $10 \times 10^9/L$ )

Blood culture positive

C-reactive protein > 10 mg/L

Elbow x-ray nondiagnostic for osteomyelitis

\*Suspected ulnar collateral ligament (UCL) injury [**All have to be present**]

Elbow injury by Hx

Tenderness of medial elbow

Instability with valgus stress testing

\*Suspected biceps/triceps tendon tear [**Both have to be present**]

Elbow injury by Hx

Weakness of flexion/extension