

CHAPTER 4
SECTION 4.6

HYPERTHERMIA FOR TREATMENT OF CANCER

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Authority: [32 CFR 199.4\(b\)\(2\)\(x\)](#), [\(c\)\(2\)\(viii\)](#), and [\(g\)\(15\)](#)

I. PROCEDURE CODE RANGE

77600-77615 (includes management during the course of therapy and follow-up care for three months after completion).

II. DESCRIPTION

Local hyperthermia involves the use of heat to make tumors more susceptible to cancer therapy measures.

III. POLICY

A. Local hyperthermia is covered when used in connection with radiation therapy for the treatment of primary or metastatic cutaneous or subcutaneous superficial malignancies.

B. Transpupillary thermotherapy (laser hyperthermia), with chemotherapy, is covered for the treatment of retinoblastoma.

IV. EXCLUSIONS

A. Local hyperthermia, alone or in connection with chemotherapy, for any indication other than retinoblastoma.

B. Whole body hyperthermia in the treatment of cancer (see [Chapter 8, Section 14.1](#)).

C. Hyperthermia for recurrent breast cancer (see [Chapter 8, Section 14.1](#)).

V. EFFECTIVE DATE November 1, 1996, for transpupillary thermotherapy.

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