

FerriScan gains ground with US Insurance Payers

Resonance Health is pleased to announce that two of our US customers have received a positive response regarding FerriScan reimbursement from two of the largest insurance payers in the US. Blue Cross Blue Shield Massachusetts and Kaiser Permanente have advised that coverage may be provided for FerriScan when a patient's clinical circumstances require it. Prior authorization is required to confirm whether the proposed service is medically necessary.

We believe this is a significant step forward and may help set a precedent in other states and with other payers.

Resonance Health has also received verbal confirmation from four US hospitals that they are now receiving reimbursement from payers for FerriScan costs. This usually involves a pre-authorisation regarding the medical necessity of the FerriScan test for the patient.

Resonance Health has been actively establishing new FerriScan service providers in the US. A medical service must be widely available to gain reimbursement and the number of US based FerriScan centres have increased from 10 in 2010 to 40 currently.

Published clinical guidelines and patient advocacy societies are also supporting the need for patients to have access to FerriScan. These include the 2012 Thalassemia Standards of Care Guidelines in California which states, "... MRI imaging provides an expedient and non-invasive way to directly measure LIC (liver iron concentration)..... A FerriScan is a commercially available and validated system for quantitative MRI measurements of iron."

An application has been made to the American Medical Association (AMA) for a CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) code suitable for FerriScan. The codes are designed to facilitate communication about medical services and procedures among physicians, administrators, patients and insurance companies for funding and administrative purposes. A unique CPT code for FerriScan is not mandatory but streamlines the coverage and payment processes between FerriScan providers and payers.

These are positive steps in our continuing efforts towards gaining reimbursement for FerriScan in the US market. As private payers see the benefits FerriScan provides in the effective management of therapy for patients with iron overload, we expect to see payers develop positive coverage policies for FerriScan.

By Order of the Board
Resonance Health Limited

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Resonance Health Ltd (ASX: RHT) (www.resonancehealth.com) is a medical device company providing imaging core laboratory services for the quantitative analysis of medical images, with a subspecialty in the liver. Resonance Health's patented FerriScan technology provides a safe and accurate alternative for measuring liver iron concentration, and research continues into the development of new technology for the accurate assessment of liver fat and liver fibrosis.