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Developed By: Medical Criteria Committee	

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Description:

Computer aided detection (CAD) has been used as a tool to assist radiologists in the interpretation of mammograms and MRIs of the breast as well as other diagnostic studies such as chest radiographs for lung cancer screening. Detection programs analyze digitized images and identify suspicious areas for review by the radiologist. The basic concept of CAD is to assist and improve the radiologist's interpretation. Although CAD is used most often in mammography, many types of CAD technology and devices are being developed for detection of various lesions in medical imaging.

Criteria:

- I. ODS considers CAD a medically necessary adjunct for both screening and diagnostic mammography.
- II. ODS considers the use of computer aided detection experimental and investigational for use with the following imaging studies because its clinical value has not been established:
 - a. MRI of the breast
 - b. Chest radiographs for lung cancer screening

Information to be Submitted with Pre-Authorization Request:

None. ODS considers computer aided detection experimental and investigational when used with imaging techniques other than mammogram.

References:

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- Elmore JG, Armstrong K, Lehman CD, Fletcher SW. Screening for breast cancer. JAMA. 2005 Mar;293(10):1245-56.
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