

# Ultrasound Use in Caring for COVID-19 Patients

*This guide provides coverage and payment information for diagnostic ultrasound and related ultrasound-guided procedures. This information was obtained from third-party sources and is subject to change without notice, as Medicare and other payers may change their reimbursement policies at any time. This document is for educational purposes only. Fujifilm Sonosite is not responsible for correct code assignment. It is the provider's responsibility to determine and submit appropriate codes, modifiers, and claims for service rendered and to ensure any services provided to patients and submitted for reimbursement are medically necessary. Fujifilm Sonosite makes no guarantees concerning reimbursement or coverage. If you have questions related to how to bill for these services appropriately, please contact your own reimbursement staff or the patient's insurer, as Fujifilm Sonosite cannot provide specific reimbursement guidance.*

Organ System Evaluation	COVID-19 Complications	Ultrasound Application	CPT Code	Descriptor	2024 Medicare Reimbursement for a Physician	2024 Medicare Reimbursement for Hospital Outpatient Setting, including ER*
Abdomen	Hepatitis	Assessment for hepatomegaly	76705	Ultrasound, abdominal, real time with image documentation; limited	\$27.30	\$104.75
	Kidney Injury	Renal Resistive Index  Evaluate free fluid in the intraperitoneal space	76775	Ultrasound, retroperitoneal (e.g. renal, aorta, nodes) real time with image documentation; limited	\$26.96	\$104.75
Arterial Line Placement	Difficulty with arterial access	Safe and efficient line placement with a high rate of first-pass success	+76937	Ultrasound guidance for vascular access requiring ultrasound evaluation of potential access sites, documentation of selected vessel patency, concurrent real-time ultrasound visualization of vascular needle entry with permanent recording and reporting (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure)	\$13.65	Packaged, no separate payment
Blood Vessels	Deep Vein Thrombosis	Direct clot visualization of upper and lower Extremities	93925	Duplex scan of lower extremity arteries or arterial bypass grafts; complete bilateral study	\$36.95	\$233.47
		Compressibility of veins	93926	Duplex scan of lower extremity arteries or arterial bypass grafts; unilateral or limited study	\$22.64	\$104.75
			93970	Duplex scan of extremity veins including responses to compression and other maneuvers; complete bilateral study	\$32.29	\$233.47
			93971	Duplex scan of extremity veins including responses to compression and other maneuvers; unilateral or limited study	\$20.64	\$104.75
Brain	Ischemic Stroke	Transcranial Doppler	93886	Transcranial Doppler study or the intracranial arteries; complete study	\$45.27	\$233.47

	Hemorrhagic Stroke	Intracranial pressure assessment using optic nerve sheath diameter	93888	Transcranial Doppler study of the intracranial arteries; limited study	\$24.30	\$104.75
			76512	Ophthalmic ultrasound, diagnostic; B-scan (with or without superimposed non-quantitative A-scan)	\$29.96	\$104.75
Cardiac	Myocarditis	Cardiac ejection fraction	93308	Echocardiography, transthoracic, real-time with image documentation (2D), includes M-mode recording, when performed, follow-up or limited study	\$24.30	\$233.47
	Pericarditis	Pericardial effusion	+93321	Doppler echocardiography, pulsed wave and/or continuous wave with spectral display; follow-up or limited study (list separately in addition to CPT code 93308, if performed)	\$6.99	Packaged, no separate payment
	Myopericarditis	Regional wall motion abnormalities	+93325	Doppler echocardiography, color flow velocity mapping (list separately in addition to CPT code 93308, if performed)	\$3.00	Packaged, no separate payment
	Myocardial Infarction	Right/left ventricular function				
	Cardiac Tamponade					
	Pulmonary Embolism					
Central Venous Catheterization	Iatrogenic pneumothorax, hematomas, carotid artery puncture, central-line associated blood vessel complications	Safer and faster CVC placement, confirmation of accurate placement, lower rate of complications compared to landmark techniques, reduced infection risk	36556	Insertion of non-tunneled centrally inserted central venous catheter; age 5 years or older	\$82.89	\$3,037.01
Endotracheal Tube Placement	Intubation Confirmation	Visualization of ETT and bilateral lung sliding to confirm	76604	Ultrasound, chest (includes mediastinum), real time with image documentation	\$26.63	\$104.75
Hemodynamics	Hypovolemia	Diagnose type of shock	93308	Echocardiography, transthoracic, real-time with image documentation (2D), includes M-mode recording, when performed, follow-up or limited study	\$24.30	\$233.47
	Septic Shock	Evaluate intravascular volume status and fluid responsiveness	+93321	Doppler echocardiography, pulsed wave and/or continuous wave with spectral display; follow-up or limited study (list separately in addition to CPT code 93308, if performed)	\$6.99	Packaged, no separate payment
		Inferior vena cava collapsibility	+93325	Doppler echocardiography, color flow velocity mapping (list separately in addition to CPT code 93308, if performed)	\$3.00	Packaged, no separate payment
		Respiratory variation on Doppler flow across left ventricular outflow tract/peripheral arteries	76604	Ultrasound, chest (includes mediastinum), real time with image documentation	\$26.63	\$104.75

			76775	Ultrasound, retroperitoneal (e.g. renal, aorta, nodes) real time with image documentation; limited	\$26.96	\$104.75
Lung	COVID Viral Pneumonia  Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome  Pneumothorax  Pleural Effusion	Identification of pulmonary edema (B-lines)  Subpleural consolidations  Pleural effusions  Lung sliding	76604	Ultrasound, chest (includes mediastinum), real time with image documentation	\$26.63	\$104.75
Paracentesis	Bleeding complications	Reduced risk for bleeding complications, compared to landmark techniques	49083	Abdominal paracentesis (diagnostic or therapeutic); with imaging guidance	\$103.86	\$863.69
Pericardiocentesis	Direct needle damage to the heart	Direct visualization of needle and guide wire to safely place catheter in pericardial space	33016	Pericardiocentesis, including imaging guidance, when performed	\$228.69	\$1,525.93
Surgical Procedures	General anesthesia requires intubation and aerosolization of Coronavirus	Surgical procedures can be done with ultrasound-guided regional anesthesia and decrease aerosolization exposure risk to health care staff	Various	<a href="#">Anesthesiology Codes</a> nerve block codes		
Thoracentesis	Pneumothorax, increased length of stay and higher costs	Lower risk of lung puncture as compared to landmark techniques	32555	Thoracentesis, needle or catheter, aspiration of the pleural space; with imaging guidance	\$106.52	\$598.55

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Reimbursement rates shown for payment of services under the Physicians Fee Schedule reflect an effective date of March 9, 2024, with a Conversion Factor of \$33.2875.

†Source: CMS OPSS - <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/payment/prospective-payment-systems/hospital-outpatient/regulations-notice/cms-1786-fc>

\*Source of Information: Department of Health and Human Services. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. CMS Physician Fee Schedule – File RVU23B, March 18, 2024,

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