

RADIOLOGY BILLING GUIDE

TC vs. PC Split Billing, Component Coding, and RVU Impact

RADIOLOGY COMPONENT FRAMEWORK

Radiology billing separates the technical process of taking an image from the professional process of interpreting that image and writing a diagnostic clinical report.

THE SPLIT BILLING MECHANISM

Most standard radiology codes (such as an X-Ray or CT scan) are split into a technical component and a professional component. Accurate billing depends entirely on who owns the equipment and who interprets the results:

BILLING SCENARIO	REQUIRED MODIFIER	PAYMENT ALLOCATION & BREAKDOWN
Technical Only	Modifier TC	Billed by the facility that owns the physical imaging machine and employs the technician. It covers the operational overhead costs.
Professional Only	Modifier 26	Billed by the radiologist who reads the image, forms the diagnosis, and writes the signed clinical report.
Global Billing	No Modifier	Billed when a single medical entity owns the machine *and* employs the interpreting physician. It pays out 100% of the combined rate.