Overview Statement

The purpose of these clinical guidelines is to assist healthcare professionals in selecting the medical service that may be appropriate and supported by evidence to improve patient outcomes. These clinical guidelines neither preempt clinical judgment of trained professionals nor advise anyone on how to practice medicine. The healthcare professionals are responsible for all clinical decisions based on their assessment. These clinical guidelines do not provide authorization, certification, explanation of benefits, or guarantee of payment, nor do they substitute for, or constitute, medical advice.

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Associated Procedure Codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure Code Description</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computed tomography, maxillofacial area; without contrast material</td>
<td>70486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computed tomography, maxillofacial area; with contrast material(s)</td>
<td>70487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computed tomography, maxillofacial area; without contrast material, followed by contrast material(s) and further sections</td>
<td>70488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definition:

1. CT - Computed tomography scan. Detailed images of internal organs are obtained by this type of sophisticated X-ray device. CT stands for computed tomography. (9)
2. The CT scan can reveal anatomic details of internal organs that cannot be seen in conventional X-rays. The X-ray tube spins rapidly around the patient and the X-rays strike numerous detectors after passing through the body. These detectors are connected to sophisticated computers which generate images after image processing. The radiation dose of a CT scanner is much higher than a conventional X-ray, but the information obtained from a CT scan is often much greater. (9)

**Guideline**

The use of CT for maxillofacial may be appropriate and supported by evidence to improve patient outcomes for the following indications.

- Evaluation following facial trauma may be reasonable and appropriate when the patient’s medical record demonstrates the following:
  - Recent facial trauma.
References


