



MASSACHUSETTS

Consensus Criteria Permitting a Physician to Officially Interpret Nuclear Cardiology Studies

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (BCBSMA*) medical directorship and the Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Cardiology have established the following criteria. Please note that Cardiologists must **fully satisfy any one of the first four conditions, and both the fifth and sixth conditions.**

1. Any Board Certified Cardiologist:

a) Board certification in Nuclear Medicine **AND** b) One-year verifiable training in Nuclear Cardiology

OR

2. Cardiologists who have finished or will finish cardiology training after July 1, 1996:

a) Board certification in Cardiovascular Disease within two years of completing their fellowship **AND**
b) Satisfy Level 2 or Level 3 Training in Nuclear Cardiology as specified by the official 1995 ACC/ASNC Training Guidelines (including didactic, clinical, and hands-on requirements with evaluation documented)

OR

3. Board Certified Cardiologists currently in clinical practice or who completed training prior to July 1, 1996:

a) Satisfy Level 2 or Level 3 Training in Nuclear Cardiology as specified by the official 1995 ACC/ASNC Training Guidelines (including didactic, clinical, and hands-on requirements with evaluation documented)

OR

b) Formal training beyond Cardiology fellowship in Cardiology Nuclear Imaging in a course sponsored or accredited by the ACC or other academic medical teaching centers **AND** twenty (20) hours beyond Cardiology fellowship of documented hands-on experience in Nuclear Cardiology at a teaching hospital.

OR

4. Any Board Certified Cardiologist:

a) Passed certified examination in Nuclear Cardiology

ALL APPLICANTS MUST ALSO SATISFY BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

5. At least 100 studies must be officially interpreted by the physician as the primary reader over one (1) year.

6. The physician must be able to provide evidence of an **ongoing quality assurance program such as quarterly review of angiographic correlation in a subset of patients whose images they have interpreted.**

Geographic access and other exceptional circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

*BCBSMA refers to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Inc., Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts HMO Blue®, Inc., and/or Massachusetts Benefit Administrators LLC, based on Product participation. PEP-1734H (12/01)