



Emergency department visit place of service restriction

Effective for claims received on and after May 1, 2010, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) will restrict the emergency department visit evaluation and management codes to the emergency place of service (23), in accordance with CPT coding rules.

Per CPT definition, the codes 99281-99285 are for reporting evaluation and management services in the emergency department. An emergency department is defined as an organized hospital-based facility for the provision of unscheduled episodic services to patients who present for immediate medical attention. The facility must be available 24 hours a day. Based on this definition, codes 99281-99285 will be denied provider liable as incompatible if submitted with any place of service (POS) other than 23.

Definitions

CPT 99281	Emergency department visit for the evaluation and management of a patient, which requires these 3 key components: A problem focused history; A problem focused examination; and Straightforward medical decision making.
CPT 99282	Emergency department visit for the evaluation and management of a patient, which requires these 3 key components: An expanded problem focused history; An expanded problem focused examination; and Medical decision making of low complexity.
CPT 99283	Emergency department visit for the evaluation and management of a patient, which requires these 3 key components: An expanded problem focused history; An expanded problem focused examination; and Medical decision making of moderate complexity.
CPT 99284	Emergency department visit for the evaluation and management of a patient, which requires these 3 key components: A detailed history; A detailed examination; and Medical decision making of moderate complexity.
CPT 99285	Emergency department visit for the evaluation and management of a patient, which requires these 3 key components within the constraints imposed by the urgency of the patient's clinical condition and/or mental status: A comprehensive history; A comprehensive examination; and Medical decision making of high complexity.
POS 23	Emergency Room – Hospital A portion of a hospital where emergency diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury is provided.

Coding requirements reminder

All coding and reimbursement is subject to changes, updates or other requirements of coding rules and guidelines. All codes are subject to federal HIPAA rules, and in the case of medical code sets (for example, HCPCS, CPT, ICD-9-CM), only valid codes for the date of service may be submitted or accepted.

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or toll free at **1-800-262-0820**.

HCPCS stands for Health Care Procedure Coding System

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ICD-9-CM stands for International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification