

NCCI UPDATE

Clinic and Ambulatory Surgery Activation Beginning April 1, 2011

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA) mandates use of the methodologies of the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) in State Medicaid claims processing systems. NCCI is utilized by Medicare and most private insurers and reflects nationally accepted correct coding standards.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- NCCI edits will be activated effective with claims submitted on and after April 1, 2011 with dates of service on and after October 1, 2010. The edits affect claims submitted for services provided in hospital outpatient departments, diagnostic and treatment centers, emergency room, and ambulatory surgery clinic services billed with APGs.
- NCCI prevents payment for services that should not be reported together for the same date of service by the same provider for the same beneficiary. Services that are integral to another comprehensive significant procedure or should never be performed with another service are not separately reimbursable. NCCI will not edit across different dates of service reported on the same visit-based or episode-based APG claim.
- In certain circumstances, payment for separate patient encounters, separate anatomic sites or separate specimens is allowed if supported by the medical record and reported with an appropriate modifier.
- Providers should not report procedures in combination which conflict with the published Medicaid NCCI edits. For NCCI material including the published list of the Medicaid NCCI edits, modifiers and coding guidance, go to: <http://www.cms.gov/MedicaidNCCICoding/>.

BILLING INFORMATION

- For NCCI conflicts, the CAS segment of the 835 remittance advice will return code "236". The code is defined as: *This procedure or procedure/modifier combination is not compatible with another procedure or procedure/modifier combination provided on the same day according to the National Correct Coding Initiative.*

RESOURCES

Billing questions: call CSC at 1-800-343-9000.

Request to review specific NCCI edits: email dprum@health.state.ny.us. Include TCN and rationale for payment.

APG policy and reimbursement: email apg@health.state.ny.us