

NCCI UPDATE

Ordered Ambulatory Edit Activation Beginning January 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 for **Ordered Ambulatory** services effective with claims submitted on and after January 1, 2011 for dates of service on and after October 1, 2010.
- 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 procedure or should never be performed with another service are not separately reimbursable.
- 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**.
- To avoid payment delays, **providers should not report procedures in combinations 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/>.
- **APG NCCI edits will be activated at a later date**. Providers will be notified of prior to activation of PPACA mandated NCCI edits for APG claims for hospital outpatient departments, diagnostic and treatment centers, emergency room and ambulatory surgery department services.

BILLING INFORMATION

- If an Ordered Ambulatory claim line is in conflict with NCCI, providers will receive denial message **Edit 00715 Procedure Conflicts With Prior Service**. Other lines will process as before.

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 outside of established NCCI rules.

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