Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Medicare Plus BlueSM and BCN AdvantageSM

Category: Billing/claims/coding

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Reimbursement for same-day IPPE/AWV and E&M service visits

Effective Jan. 1, 2022, BCN AdvantageSM covers an Evaluation & Management service code, including annual physical exams, provided on the same date of service as an Initial Preventive Physical Examination ("Welcome to Medicare" visits) or Annual Wellness Visit without an appeal. Prior to Jan. 1, 2022, claims with both an IPPE/AWV and E&M service code on the same date of service would not reimburse for both services. Providers had to submit an appeal to receive reimbursement for both services. This change aligns BCN Advantage reimbursement with Medicare Plus Blue reimbursement as well as the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and other Michigan health plans.

As these changes are implemented in our claims system during the first quarter of 2022, providers may receive denials; however, there is no need for providers to submit an appeal or resubmit these claims. These claims will be automatically reviewed and adjusted.

Please note, when billing for both services on the same date of service, proper billing and coding guidelines must be followed. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Both services must be medically necessary and reasonable
- All components of both services must be provided and fully documented in the medical record
- Modifier 25 should be included with the E&M service

A reminder to conduct Medicare wellness visits for your Medicare Advantage patients was published on Page 9 of the January-February 2022 BCN Provider News and the December 2021 issue of The Record.