

PROVIDER NOTICE

Provider Relations Department: 888-895-4998 (Option 4)

Changes to Emergency Department Review Policy, Sudden and Serious List

Effective Date: Nov. 1, 2024

Health Plan(s) Affected: Priority Partners, Employer Health Programs (EHP), and US Family Health Plan (USFHP)

Type of Change: Policy

Explanation of Change:

The Johns Hopkins Health Plans Reimbursement and Coding Committee (RAC) approved changes to the Sudden and Serious List, which is a list of ICD-10s for which Emergency Department (ED) payment does not require medical review. Several ICD-10s were removed. There will be a change in review for payment of ED ancillaries, as well. Please see details below.

Please view the current version here: [Sudden and Serious Diagnosis Codes List*](#)

NOTE: The current list contains an addendum with codes that will be **deleted effective Nov. 1, 2024**. These codes are:

- **E03.9** - Hypothyroidism Unspecified
- **E11.65** - Type 2 Dm w/hyperglycemia
- **G40.909** - Epilepsy Uns Not Intract W/O Se
- **G89.18** - Other Acute Postprocedural Pain
- **J21.0** - Acute Bronchiolitis Due To RSV
- **J21.9** - Acute Bronchiolitis Unspecified
- **K29.70** - Gastritis Uns Without Bleeding
- **N12** - Tubulo-Interst Nephrit Not Ac/Chrn
- **O21.0** - Mild Hyperemesis Gravidarum
- **O21.9** - Vomiting Of Pregnancy Unspecified
- **R04.0** - Epistaxis
- **R11.15** - Cyclicl Vomtnng Syn Unreltd Migraine Ed
- **R41.82** - Altered Mental Status Unspecified
- **S06.0X0A** - Concussion Without Loc Initial Enc
- **T78.1XXA** - Oth Adverse Food Reactions Nec Init
- **T78.40XA** - Allergy Unspecified Initial Encntr
- **Z11.52** - Encount For Screening For COVID-19
- **Z86.16** - Personal History Of COVID-19

For claims without a diagnosis on the Sudden and Serious list, Johns Hopkins Health Plans performs a clinical review. This review evaluates each clinical situation in terms of the Prudent Layperson standard (EMTALA law). Historically, Johns Hopkins Health Plans automatically paid for many ancillary tests even when the clinical situation did not meet the Prudent Layperson standard.

Beginning Nov. 1, 2024, if Johns Hopkins Health Plans determines that a Prudent Layperson would not have sought Emergency Department care in their specific clinical situation, Johns Hopkins Health Plans will also evaluate the medical necessity of each ancillary study accompanying the visit. Ancillaries that are not medically necessary will not be paid.

To view the full descriptions of policies, please visit the Resources and Guidelines section of the Johns Hopkins Health Plans website on or after the effective date or call Provider Relations at 888-895-4998 (option 4).

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