

# PROVIDER NOTICE

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

## Updates to Reimbursement Policies Effective Dec. 27, 2024

**Policy Effective Dates:** Dec. 27, 2024

**Health Plans Affected:** Advantage MD, Employer Health Programs (EHP), Priority Partners, US Family Health Plan (USFHP)

**Type of Change:** Reimbursement

### Explanation of Change:

Johns Hopkins Health Plans has released its notification of the updated and new reimbursement policies as follows:

#### **(RPC.041) Global Surgical Services Policy - New (eff. Dec. 27, 2024)**

- Payment for a surgical procedure includes a standard package of preoperative, intraoperative and postoperative services.
- Physicians or other qualified health care providers in the same group practice, who are in the same specialty, must bill and be paid as though they were a single physician.
- With very few exceptions, the payment for a surgical procedure includes payment for all dressings, supplies and local anesthesia. Inappropriate unbundling of a procedure or service will result in a denial.
- NCCI Procedure-to-Procedure (PTP) edits are applied to same day services by the same provider/supplier to the same member, certain Global Surgery Rules are applicable to the NCCI program.

#### **(RPC.042) Priority Partners Telehealth Policy - New (eff. Dec. 27, 2024)**

- Telehealth/Telemedicine services are to be processed and paid in accordance with the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) and Maryland Medicaid.
- Providers delivering services via telehealth submit claims in the same manner the provider uses for in-person services. Providers should use the place of service code that would be appropriate as if it were a non-telehealth claim.  
*Example: If a distant site provider is rendering services at an off-site office, use the place of service office (11).*
- Do not report telehealth services with POS codes 02 and/or 10.
- In alignment with MDH guidance, Johns Hopkins Health Plans will not recognize any other modifier, other than “GT” or “UB”, appended to telehealth services.
- Johns Hopkins Health Plans does not reimburse for Telephone E/M services (99441-99443 or 98966-98968), but does allow for audio-only E/M visits, levels 99211-99213.
- Consistent with MDH guidance, Store and Forward technology is only covered for dermatology, ophthalmology or radiology services under the Physician Services at COMAR 10.09.02.07.
- CPT code 99600 with modifier GT is only payable in POS 12.

**(RPC.030) Telehealth/Telemedicine Services - Updated (eff. Dec. 27, 2024)**

- Johns Hopkins Health Plans will process and reimburse telehealth/telemedicine claims in accordance with CMS guidance for those services payable under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) when furnished via telehealth.
- In alignment with CMS guidance, Johns Hopkins Health Plans will apply frequency editing logic to process claims for applicable telehealth service codes.  
*Example: “Once every three days” frequency edit logic for telehealth service codes 99307-99310.*
- In alignment with CMS, Johns Hopkins Health Plans will only recognize place of service codes 02 or 10, for the reporting of telehealth services.
- Remote Physiological Monitoring (RPM) is a covered telehealth service when billed in accordance with CMS guidance, ordered by an authorized Johns Hopkins Health Plans provider, and when certain coverage criteria are met per the members plan benefits.
- Inappropriate reporting of POS codes or modifiers appended to telehealth service codes will be denied.

**REFERENCES:**

- [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#)
- [COMAR - Maryland Department of Health - Maryland Medicaid Administration](#)
- [Billing for Telehealth | Telehealth.HHS.gov](#)
- [COMAR 10.09.49 Telehealth Services](#)
- [Maryland Medicaid Professional Services Provider Manual](#)
- [Maryland Medicaid PT 37-23 Reimbursement for Remote Patient Monitoring](#)
- [MDH Transmittals](#)
- [Medicare Claims Processing Manual Ch. 12- Physicians/Nonphysician Practitioners](#)
- [Medicare Claims Processing Manual Ch. 23- Fee Schedule Administration and Coding Requirements](#)
- [Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Data Base \(MPFSDB\)](#)
- [NCCI for Medicare | CMS](#)
- [NCCI for Medicaid | CMS](#)
- [TRICARE Reimbursement Manual](#)

To view the Johns Hopkins Health Plans Reimbursement Policies on or after the effective date, please go to: **[HopkinsHealthPlans.org](https://HopkinsHealthPlans.org) > For Providers > Policies > Reimbursement Policies**

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