



PROVIDER NOTICE

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

Johns Hopkins Health Plans New Reimbursement Policies

Effective Date: March 15, 2025

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 new reimbursement policies as follows:

(RPC.043) Advanced Laboratory Testing Policy - New

- Johns Hopkins Health Plans allows for reimbursement of covered advanced laboratory testing (e.g., biomarker testing, molecular pathology, genetic testing, etc.), when billed in accordance with the member's applicable plan and coverage criteria, on the date of service.
- Certain tests identified by Johns Hopkins Health Plans can only be performed only once in a patient's lifetime or once per pregnancy, as determined by the health plan.
- Laboratories submitting claims for reimbursement are responsible for obtaining all supporting documentation from the ordering, referring and/or servicing provider, when requested by Johns Hopkins Health Plans. For proper reimbursement, documentation must clearly establish and support medical necessity for each test ordered.
- Laboratory tests determined to be experimental, investigational or unproven (E/I/U) by Johns Hopkins Health Plans are ineligible for payment.
- Providers are responsible to verify the member's coverage and benefits, and/or obtain a prior authorization **before** services are rendered; authorization is not a guarantee of payment.

(RPC.044) Age and Gender/Sex Based Codes Policy - New

- Johns Hopkins Health Plans will process claims assigned with age and gender/sex designations, based on the modifier or code description.
- Johns Hopkins Health Plans may reject or deny claims if necessary information to process the claim is missing or if there's a mismatch between the procedure, modifier and/or diagnosis code, and the reported age or gender/sex of the patient.
- Johns Hopkins Health Plans will utilize code-editing programs and post-pay algorithms to identify codes reported with the inappropriate age of a patient or inappropriate gender/sex of a patient.
- Johns Hopkins Health Plans recognizes and allows the use of modifier KX when there is gender/sex procedure or diagnosis conflict. Modifier KX alerts us that there is a known conflict, but still allows the claim to process.

(RPC.045) Once In a Lifetime (OIL) Procedures and Services Policy - New

- The OIL policy limits the frequency of reimbursement for certain items, test, services and/or procedures identified by Johns Hopkins Health Plans which can be performed, reported and/or reimbursed only once during a patient's lifetime. OIL claims are subject to review.
- Some services and procedures, as identified by Johns Hopkins Health Plans, are not limited to a single CPT/HCPCS code, as "Code Families", which are a group of CPT/HCPCS codes that describe the same or similar type of service, may also represent them. The CPT manual also contains groups of codes describing different approaches or methods to accomplish similar results. These codes are generally mutually exclusive of one another.
- Johns Hopkins Health Plans will utilize the "first in, first out" payment methodology, when multiple providers bill for the same OIL service or procedure, for the same member.

REFERENCES:

- [COMAR - Maryland Department of Health - Maryland Medicaid Administration](#)
- [Maryland Medicaid Professional Services Provider Manual](#)
- [MDH Transmittals](#)
- [Medicare Claims Processing Manual Ch. 23 - Fee Schedule Administration and Coding Requirements](#)
- [Medicare Claims Processing Manual Ch. 32 - Billing Requirements for Special Services](#)
- [MLN Weekly Edition 2023-06-08 | CMS](#)
- [MLN909221 – Complying with Documentation Requirements for Lab Services](#)
- [NCCI for Medicare | CMS](#)
- [NCCI for Medicaid | CMS](#)
- [TRICARE Laboratory Developed Tests](#)
- [TRICARE List of HCPCS Codes with Age/Gender Restrictions](#)
- [TRICARE Genetic Testing And Counseling](#)
- [TRICARE Reimbursement Manual](#)

To view the [Johns Hopkins Health Plans Reimbursement Policies](#), please go to:
[HopkinsHealthPlans.org](#) > **For Providers > **Policies** > **Reimbursement Policies****

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