



New Coding Integrity Reimbursement Guidelines

Dear Provider,

WellCare Health Plans, Inc., is committed to improving its claims review and payment processes. Effective **03/31/2020**, we are introducing new Coding Integrity Reimbursement Guidelines based on industry standards, coding rules published within the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) by the American Medical Association (AMA) and ICD-10-CM guidelines governed by Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). These are the same rules used by most healthcare claims payers and enforced by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

New Coding Edit Guideline:

According to the CMS Internet-Only Manuals, Publication 100-04 Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 2 - Admission and Registration Requirements, Transmittals for Chapter 2, section - 90.4 Type of Bill states the following: **To properly bill, hospitals other than CAHs assign type of bill (TOB) 13X to all bills for outpatient hospital services and TOB 14X for non-patient (referred) laboratory specimens. A non-patient is defined as a beneficiary that is neither an inpatient nor an outpatient of a hospital, but that has a specimen that is submitted for analysis to a hospital and the beneficiary is not physically present at the hospital.** Effective 4/1/06 the 14X type of bill is for non-patient laboratory specimens and is no longer applicable for partial hospitalization billing.

TOB 14X should only be billed for non-patient lab specimens, which are paid under the clinical laboratory fee schedule at the lesser of the actual charge, the fee schedule amount, or the National Limitation Amount (NLA). Part B deductible and coinsurance do not apply for laboratory tests payable on the laboratory fee schedule. TOB 14X should no longer be used for referred diagnostic services other than laboratory services.

CPT Codes & Bill Types

The proper reporting of CPT® procedure codes and correct bill types enables WellCare to more precisely apply reimbursement guidelines and ensure that an accurate record of patient care history is maintained.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact your Provider Relations Representative.

Thank you for helping WellCare members live better, healthier lives.