



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA • DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

ISSUE DATE February 20, 2007	EFFECTIVE DATE February 20, 2007	NUMBER 26-07-01
SUBJECT Clarification of Procedure Codes and Modifiers to be Used When Billing for Ambulance Services	BY  Michael Nardone, Acting Deputy Secretary Office of Medical Assistance Programs	

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to:

- 1) clarify the use of the ambulance procedure codes and informational modifiers; and,
- 2) issue an updated Ambulance Services Medical Assistance (MA) Program Fee Schedule.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all ambulance providers rendering services to MA recipients in the fee-for-service delivery system. Ambulance providers rendering services to MA recipients in the managed care delivery system should address any coding or rate-related questions to the appropriate managed care organization.

BACKGROUND/ DISCUSSION:

On October 29, 2004, the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) issued MA Bulletin 26-04-02, titled "Procedure Code Changes for Ambulance Services", to notify providers of the national procedure codes and modifiers to be used in place of local procedure codes and type of service. Attachment "A" of MA Bulletin 26-04-02, the "Ambulance Procedure Code Cross Walk Chart" was included. After further review and analysis, the OMAP has determined that the OMAP's original crosswalk of local procedure codes to national procedure codes did not accurately reflect the MA Programs' ambulance policies; therefore the OMAP is issuing an updated fee schedule, which clarifies the national procedure codes, modifiers and appropriate places of service in order to assist ambulance providers to appropriately bill the MA Program for ambulance services.

PROCEDURE:

Effective with dates of service on or after February 20, 2007, ambulance providers rendering ambulance transportation services to MA recipients are directed to refer to the attached MA Program Ambulance Services Fee Schedule, when submitting claims for ambulance services. Ambulance providers are reminded to use the appropriate place of

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The appropriate toll-free number for your provider type.

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service code and corresponding informational modifiers to identify the place where the recipient is transported from and the final destination (place of service) in accordance with regulations set forth at Title 55 of the Pa.Code, Chapters 1101 relating to General Provisions, 1150 relating to MA Payment Policies and 1245 relating to Ambulance Transportation.

Attachment A is an updated Ambulance Service MA Program Fee Schedule which lists the ambulance service national procedure code, procedure code description, provider type, provider specialty, place of service, informational and pricing modifiers, limits and MA fee. Ambulance providers are reminded to use the pricing modifier (U8) as identified on Attachment A for mileage and conventional air fixed-wing ambulance services. Failure to bill the national procedure code, the place of service and the pricing and information modifiers, as appropriate, will result in claim denial.

Attachments:

- Attachment A - Ambulance Services MA Program Fee Schedule
- Attachment B - Ambulance Code Modifier Table