



PROVIDER QUICK TIPS

#149

Billing of Multiple Anesthesia Services

The Department of Public Welfare (the department) reviewed claims for multiple anesthesia services performed by the same anesthesiologist and provided to the same Medical Assistance (MA) beneficiary during the same period of hospitalization and found that providers had submitted claims for multiple anesthesia services on separate invoices.

MA policy set forth at 55 Pa.Code § 1150.52(c) states that, “When two or more surgical procedures are performed and anesthesia is provided by the same anesthesiologist during the same period of hospitalization, the anesthesiologist will be reimbursed at 100% for the highest allowable payment for one procedure and 25% for the second highest paying procedure, with no payment for additional procedures.”

In accordance with this policy, providers are reminded to bill all anesthesia services performed by the same anesthesiologist during the same period of hospitalization on a single professional claim submission for anesthesia services. Providers are also instructed to list the anesthesia service with the highest fee on the first claim line and the anesthesia service with the next highest fee on the second claim line, etc.

Providers are also reminded to bill the anesthesia procedure code with the highest number of base units when reporting time for two or more anesthesia procedures performed during the same surgical event, and anesthesia is provided by the same anesthesiologist. All anesthesia time must be allotted to that single anesthesia procedure code. No payment will be made for additional anesthesia procedures provided during that surgical event.

Providers should refer to MA bulletins 31-04-06, 31-04-07 and 31-07-05 for information regarding the conversion factor and additional billing information for anesthesia services. The MABs can be viewed at the following link(s):

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/publications/bulletinsearch/bulletinselected/index.htm?bn=31-04-06>

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/publications/bulletinsearch/bulletinselected/index.htm?bn=31-04-07>

<http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/publications/bulletinsearch/bulletinselected/index.htm?bn=31-07-05>

Failure to bill correctly for multiple anesthesia procedures may cause the claim(s) to be denied or paid incorrectly and will result in the recoupment of MA payments made in error.

Check the department’s website often at: www.dpw.state.pa.us/
Thank you for your service to our Medical Assistance recipients.
We value your participation.



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