



Clinical editing billing tips

Hospital and observation evaluation and management services

We continue to monitor and review claims across providers for professional services. Both inpatient and observation E&M codes are included in our clinical editing policies. To avoid receiving incorrect denials, ensure the patient's status is verified before applying the place of service and E&M code. For example, if the patient was admitted and status is listed as inpatient, the submission of an observation E&M code will receive a clinical edit. Likewise, if the patient was not eligible for an inpatient stay, the submission of an inpatient E&M code will receive a clinical edit.

Behavioral health evaluation and management codes

We apply clinical edits on behavioral health evaluation and management and therapy codes. To avoid an unnecessary edit for a situation in which both services are appropriate to have been coded separately, append the correct behavioral health modifiers.

Appending the appropriate modifier will help us identify that the services were performed by separate licensed practitioners that may be treating the member concurrently.

Other information can be found in these places when you visit bcbsm.com/providers and log in to Provider Secured Services:

- The Behavioral health services billing instructions on the Billing/Claims page in *BCN Provider Publications and Resources*.
- The Behavioral Health chapter of the *BCN Provider Manual*.
- The Behavioral Health page in *BCN Provider Publications and Resources*. You'll find a document titled, *Useful tools and hints for BCN behavioral health providers*. Another document, *Requirements for providing behavioral health services to BCN members*, provides information on modifier use.