

Mid-Level Practitioners NP's, PA's, CNM's, CPM's

Policy

Mass General Brigham Health Plan reimburses participating Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants and Certified Nurse Midwives for medically necessary services for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease, and for the maintenance of the health of Mass General Brigham Health Plan members.

Mass General Brigham Health Plan does not currently recognize NPs and PAs as hospitalists.

Reimbursement

Providers are reimbursed in accordance with the plan's network provider reimbursement or contracted rates. Claims are subject to payment edits, which are updated at regular intervals.

Covered services are defined by the member's benefit plan. The manner in which covered services are reimbursed is determined by the Mass General Brigham Health Plan Payment Policy and by the provider's agreement with Mass General Brigham Health Plan. Member liability amounts may include, but are not limited to copayments, deductible(s), and/or co-insurance, and will be applied dependent upon the member's benefit plan.

Various services and procedures require referral and/or prior authorization. Referral and prior authorization requirements can be located [here](#).

Please reference procedure codes from the current CPT, HCPCS Level II, and ICD-10-CM manuals, as recommended by the American Medical Association (AMA), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and the American Hospital Association. CMS and the AMA revise HIPAA medical codes on a pre-determined basis, including changes to CPT, HCPCS, and ICD-10 codes and definitions.

Please refer to the CMS or CPT guidelines for requisite modifier usage when reporting services. The absence or presence of a modifier may result in differential claim payment or denial.

Mass General Brigham Health Plan reviews claims to determine eligibility for payment. Services considered incidental, mutually exclusive, integral to the primary service rendered, or part of a global

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allowance, are not eligible for separate reimbursement. This is the General Coding and Billing PPG. All claims are subject to audit, and Mass General Brigham Health Plan may request medical records from the provider.

Mass General Brigham Health Plan Reimburses

- Nurse practitioners at the following percentage of the physician fee schedule rate:
 - 85% of the applicable fee schedule in effect at time of service, for most services when billed under the NP's NPI, and if they are licensed to provide the service under state and federal law.
 - 100% of the applicable fee schedule in effect at time of service, when billed under a physician's national provider identifier (NPI) with an SA modifier appended to each procedure

- Physician assistants (PAs) at the following percentage of the physician fee schedule rate:
 - 85% of the applicable fee schedule in effect at time of service, for most services when billed under the PA's NPI, and if they are licensed to provide the service under state and federal law
 - 100% of the applicable fee schedule in effect at time of service, when billed under a physician's national provider identifier (NPI) with the AM modifier

- Certified nurse midwives at the following percentage of the physician fee schedule rate:
 - 85% of the applicable fee schedule in effect at time of service, for most services when billed under the CNM's NPI, and if they are licensed to provide the service under state and federal law

- *Collaborating Providers Who Submit Claims for NP's and PA's.* It is the responsibility of the collaborating provider to educate the NP or PA on all Mass General Brigham Health Plan policies, procedures, and guidelines. The collaborating provider is responsible for maintaining appropriate state licensing information for all NPs or PAs under his or her supervision. The collaborating provider must maintain proof of appropriate professional malpractice liability insurance coverage for all NPs or PAs under his or her supervision. Modifiers must be present on claims submitted by the collaborating provider.

- *Physician Assistants & Nurse Practitioners contracted with Mass General Brigham Health Plan as specialty PA's/NP's,* may bill and be reimbursed for assist at surgery. To be reimbursed, PA/NP

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must bill under their own NPI, with the AS modifier. Reimbursement is 16% of the applicable fee schedule in effect at time of service.

Mass General Brigham Health Plan Does *Not* Reimburse

- Devices, drugs, procedures, treatments, laboratory and pathology tests that are experimental, investigational as referenced in [Experimental and Investigational](#) medical policy
- Home births except for an emergency or unplanned delivery that occurs at home prior to being admitted to a hospital or for maternity services furnished outside of Massachusetts. Please refer to the member handbook for additional information.
- Certified professional midwives (CPM) or any midwives who are not registered nurses.
- CNM services billed under the physician's individual NPI

Related Mass General Brigham Health Plan Payment Guidelines

[Modifiers](#)

References

American Medical Association (AMA) Current Procedural Terminology (CPT)
CMS/HIPAA Information Series

Publication History

Topic: General Coding and Billing	Owner: Network Management
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December 1, 2018

Original documentation

January 1, 2019

Document restructure; codes, code descriptor and references updated

January 1, 2023

Document rebrand

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This document is designed for informational purposes only. Claims payment is subject to member eligibility and benefits on the date of service, coordination of benefits, referral/authorization/notification and utilization management guidelines when applicable, adherence to plan policies and procedures, claims editing logic, and provider contractual agreement. In the event of a conflict between this payment guideline and the provider's agreement, the terms and conditions of the provider's agreement shall prevail. Payment policies are intended to assist providers in obtaining Mass General Brigham Health Plan's payment information. Payment policy determines the rationale by which a submitted claim for service is processed and paid. Payment policy formulation takes into consideration a variety of factors including: the terms of the participating providers' contract(s); scope of benefits included in a given member's benefit plan; clinical rationale, industry-standard procedure code edits, and industry-standard coding conventions.

Mass General Brigham Health Plan includes Mass General Brigham Health Plan, Inc., and Mass General Brigham Health Plan Insurance Company.