

Reimbursement Policy	
Subject: Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Services	
Policy Number: G-20002	Policy Section: Administration
Last Approval Date: 04/11/2022	Effective Date: 04/11/2022

**** Visit our provider website for the most current version of our reimbursement policies. If you are using a printed version of this policy, please verify the information by going to <https://www.bluecrossnc.com/providers/blue-medicare-providers/healthy-blue-medicare>. ****

Disclaimer

These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claims submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (Blue Cross NC) if the service is covered for Healthy Blue + MedicareSM (HMO D-SNP). The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member's benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member's state of residence. You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with CPT[®] codes, HCPCS codes, and/or revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed code(s) are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to participating providers and facilities; a noncontracting provider who accepts Medicare assignment will be reimbursed for services according to the original Medicare reimbursement rates.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Blue Cross NC Medicare Advantage may:

- Reject or deny the claim.
- Recover and/or recoup claim payment.
- Adjust the reimbursement to reflect the appropriate services and/or procedures performed.

Blue Cross NC Medicare Advantage reimbursement policies are developed based on nationally accepted industry standards and coding principles. These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal, or CMS contracts and/or requirements. System logic or setup may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, Blue Cross NC Medicare Advantage strives to minimize these variations.

<https://www.bluecrossnc.com/provider-home>

Healthy Blue + MedicareSM (HMO D-SNP) is a Medicare Advantage plan offered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (Blue Cross NC). Certain administrative services for Healthy Blue + Medicare are provided by Amerigroup Partnership Plan, LLC (Amerigroup) pursuant to an administrative services agreement. References to Blue Cross NC may mean Blue Cross NC or their designee, Amerigroup.
NCBCBS-CR-RP-016848-22-CPN15887 February 2023

Blue Cross NC Medicare Advantage reserves the right to review and revise our policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to our provider website.

Policy

Blue Cross NC Medicare Advantage allows reimbursement for services provided by nurse practitioner (NP) and physician assistant (PA) providers. Unless provider, state, federal, or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise, reimbursement is based upon all of the following:

- Service is considered a physician's service:
 - Excluding fees for the following:
 - Drugs
 - Durable medical equipment
 - Laboratory services
 - Preventive services and screening tests
 - Radiology services
- Service is within the scope of practice.
- A payment reduction consistent with CMS reimbursement.

Services furnished by the NP or PA should be submitted with their own NPI.

Related Coding

Standard correct coding applies

Policy History

04/11/2022	Biennial review approved: added language for clarity in policy body under Physician Services ; policy template updated
01/01/2021	Initial policy approved and effective

References and Research Materials

This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:

- CMS
- State contract

Definitions

General Reimbursement Policy Definitions

Related Policies and Materials

Assistant at Surgery (Modifier 80, 81, 82, AS)

Modifier Usage

Scope of Practice