

Provider Request and Update: BCBSNC Requires CPT and HCPCS Codes to Be Included On UB-04 Claim Submissions

Background: On September 9, 2011, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC) communicated to providers a billing reminder for outpatient and ambulatory surgery centers: reminding them that BCBSNC requires CPT and HCPCS codes to be included on all UB-04 claim submissions. BCBSNC first introduced this policy in October 2009 and has been monitoring claim submissions and working with network providers to ensure rule adherence.

UPDATE

Effective November 19, 2011, the newly installed edits went into effect and began rejecting outpatient and ambulatory surgery UB-04 claims filed without CPT and HCPCS codes from processing. Therefore, any UB-04 claims received beginning 11/19/2011 without a valid CPT and HCPCS for specific revenue codes were rejected. This impacts both electronically submitted and paper UB-04 claims for outpatient hospital and ambulatory surgery centers.

Due to provider concerns and based upon feedback we have received that these current edits may not align with that of CMS, BCBSNC has decided to re-evaluate the impacted revenue code edits and temporarily remove them from the claims front-end editing system, while we look into this further.

REQUEST

We are currently developing a plan of action for this issue, and are targeting the week ending 12/5/2011 for implementation. At this time, we are asking for providers to either submit claims with a proper CPT/HCPCS code when required or postpone filing these claims until this plan is in place. Once the plan is in place and the impacted revenue codes have been removed from the front-end editing system, any claims that were rejected between 11/19/2011 and 12/4/2011 will need to be resubmitted.

BCBSNC appreciates your cooperation and apologize for any inconvenience resulting from this issue. We will continue to work diligently to implement this fix, limiting any additional impact to our provider community.

Please note: this does **NOT** apply to Blue Medicare HMOSM, Blue Medicare PPOSM and Blue Medicare Supplement claims.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Provider Blue LineSM at (800) 214-4844.

Original provider communication noticed on 7/1/2009 via BCBSNC Provider Portal:
<http://www.bcbsnc.com/content/providers/important-news/july01-2009.htm>.

Secondary provider communication noticed on 9/9/2011 via BCBSNC Provider Portal:
<http://www.bcbsnc.com/content/providers/important-news/sep9b-2011.htm>.