

Provider Memorandum

Reminder for Providers on National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI)

Molina Healthcare of Illinois (Molina) is reminding its providers that proper editing methodologies as outlined in the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) must be followed when submitting claims and corrected claims. Please note that in cases where guidelines differ, Illinois Medicaid guidelines overrule national requirements.

The NCCI was created by The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to help providers with applying correct coding practices and to prevent improper coding that may lead to inappropriate payment of Part B claims. NCCI edits are applied to services performed by the same provider for the same beneficiary on the same date of service.

There are two types of NCCI edits:

Procedure-to-procedure edits (PTP)

- Procedure-to-procedure (PTP) edits identify HCPCS and CPT codes that should not be reported together.

Medically unlikely edits (MUE)

- Medically unlikely edits (MUEs) edits help providers prevent payment for inappropriate number/quantity of the same service on a single day. MUE edits for HCPCS/CPT code is the maximum number of units of service (UOS).

The requirement to follow NCCI editing methodologies became effective as part of the Affordable Care Act of 2010. That same year, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) issued a communication to let providers know that CMS determined NCCI methodologies are compatible for Medicaid claims. For more information on the National Correct Coding Initiative please visit <https://www.illinois.gov/hfs/MedicalProviders/notices/Pages/pm101014a.aspx>

CMS has established the following methodologies for providers:

- NCCI procedure-to-procedure edits for practitioner and ambulatory surgical center services.
- NCCI procedure-to-procedure edits for outpatient hospital services (including emergency department, observation, and hospital laboratory services) incorporated into the Medicare outpatient code editor (OCE) for hospitals reimbursed through the hospital outpatient prospective payment systems (OPPS). These same edits in OCE are applied to all facility therapy services billed to the Medicare Fiscal Intermediary (Part A Hospital/Part B Practitioner Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) processing claims with the Fiscal Intermediary Shared System (FISS). They do not apply to hospitals not reimbursed through the OPPS such as Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs).
- MUE units of service edits for practitioner and ambulatory surgical center services.
- MUE units of services edits for outpatient hospital services for hospitals reimbursed through OPPS and CAHs

- MUE units of service edits for supplier claims for durable medical equipment

For more information on NCCI please visit the following links:

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/how-to-use-ncci-tools.pdf>

Providers who have questions may contact their Molina provider network manager or the provider network management department at (630) 203-3965 or via email at

MHILProviderNetworkManagement@MolinaHealthcare.com.

For help locating your provider network manager, please visit Molina's service area page at

<http://www.molinahealthcare.com/providers/il/medicaid/contacts/Pages/servicearea.aspx>