

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania and AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast Providers

From: AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania and AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast

Date: July 1, 2020

Subject: Pre-admission Testing Three (3)-Day/One (1)-Day Window Policy

Summary: Effective September 1, 2020, outpatient services that are clinically related and furnished within three days of an inpatient admission must be included as part of inpatient services for billing purposes.

Policy Overview

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has established that, for billing purposes, all diagnostic and any other outpatient services that are clinically related to the reason for inpatient admission and that are rendered during a three-day window (the three calendar days preceding the day of admission) must be included as part of the inpatient services.

Certain hospital facility types are exempt from the three day window, but are still subject to a one day window for admission-related services in these facilities. See the Exceptions section of this policy for specific facility types.

Reimbursement policies

AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania and AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast will reimburse according to applicable State Fee Schedule(s) and the provider's contract.

Effective September 1, 2020, hospital outpatient services furnished during the one- or three-day window (as applicable to the facility type) prior to an inpatient admission are not separately payable. Separate claims submitted for such services will be denied.

Services that are billed/coded inappropriately for any other reason may also result in:

- Rejection or denial of the claim
- Recoupment of claim payment

Exceptions

- 1) Hospitals that are subject to a one-day window (instead of three days) are:
 - Psychiatric hospitals and units;
 - Inpatient rehabilitation hospitals and units;
 - Long-term care hospitals;
 - Children's hospitals
 - Cancer hospitals
- 2) Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) Program codes will be separately payable even when service dates occur within one day or three day window prior to admission.



Questions:

If you have questions about this communication, please contact your Provider Account Executive or the Provider Services department at 1-800-521-6007 for AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania and at 1-888-208-7370 for AmeriHealth Caritas Northeast.

