

Revision Dates: 7/12/21; 7/1/2020; 10/1/2019; 8/23/2019; 4/12/2019; 11/1/2018; 4/5/2018; 2/9/2018; 1/05/18; 12/29/17; 10/01/2017; 10/05/2016; 03/30/2016; 12/21/2015; 11/13/2014; 09/30/2014; 04/07/2014

General Information

Within limitations, AHCCCS covers medically necessary medical and surgical services performed in offices, clinics, hospitals, homes, or other locations by licensed physicians, dentists, and mid-level practitioners.

Cosmetic surgery, experimental procedures, and unproven procedures are not covered.

Physicians and mid-level practitioners must bill for services on the CMS 1500 claim form. Services must be billed using appropriate CPT and HCPCS codes and procedure modifiers, if applicable. Dentists must bill for services on the ADA 2012 form using CDT-4 codes. The range of procedure codes that may be used by each provider type is listed in the provider type profile maintained by AHCCCS.

Providers should contact the Claims Customer Service Unit to determine if a procedure is covered by AHCCCS or if a specific code can be billed on a fee-for-service claim.

Phoenix area: (602) 417-7670 (Option 4)

All others: 1-800-794-6862 (In state)

1-800-523-0231, Ext. 7670 (Out of state)

The covered services, limitations, and exclusions described in this chapter offer general guidance to providers. Specific information regarding covered services, limitations, and exclusions can be found in the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM) and Arizona Administrative Codes (A.A.C.) R9-22-201 et. seq. Please direct questions to the AHCCCS Office of Medical Policy, Analytics and Coding.

The AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM) is available on the AHCCCS website at www.azahcccs.gov.

For information on Title XIX and Title XXI (KidsCare) member claims for professional services done at an IHS/638 facility, please see Chapter 8, Individual Practitioner Services, of the IHS/Tribal Provider Billing Manual.

Correct Coding Initiative

AHCCCS follows Medicare's Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) policy and performs CCI edits and audits on Fee-For-Service claims for the same provider, same member, and same date of service.

Correct coding means billing for procedures with the appropriate comprehensive code. “Unbundling” is the billing of multiple procedure codes for services that are covered by a single comprehensive code.

Some examples of **incorrect** coding include:

- Fragmenting one service into components and coding each as if it were a separate service.
- Billing separate codes for related services when one code includes all related services.
- Breaking out bilateral procedures when one code is appropriate.
- Down-coding a service in order to use an additional code when one higher level, more comprehensive code is appropriate.

All services that are integral to a procedure are considered bundled into that procedure as components of the comprehensive code when those services:

- Represent the standard of care for the overall procedure, or
- Are necessary to accomplish the comprehensive procedure, or
- Do not represent a separately identifiable procedure unrelated to the comprehensive procedure.

Modifier 59 must be attached to a component code to indicate that the procedure was distinct or separate from other services performed on the same day and was not part of the comprehensive service and clinically justified as demonstrated in the medical record. Claims submitted to AHCCCS utilizing modifier 59 will be subject to Medical Review.

Documentation in the medical record must satisfy the criteria required for appropriate use of the modifier. Modifier 59 cannot be billed with evaluation and management codes (99201-99499) or radiation therapy codes (77261 -77499).

To align with Medicare billing rule, bilateral procedures are to be billed on one line with the “50” modifier and the appropriate number of units. The rate valuation is 150% of the capped fee schedule.

Separate services during the post-operative period may be billed with modifier 58 or 78.

Other modifiers may be appropriately attached to comprehensive codes (e.g., professional component (26), assistant surgeon (80), etc.).

CCI edits and audits are run on a prepayment basis. The CCI edit results are:

- L140.1 - Invalid Coding Combination; Mutually Exclusive Code Paid (Deny)
- L140.2 - Invalid Coding Combination; Component Previously Paid (Deny)
- L140.3 - Invalid Coding Combination; Comprehensive Previously Paid (Deny)

L140.4 - Invalid Coding Combination; Multiple Component Codes (Deny)

L140.5 – Invalid Coding Combination; Ventilator Management with E/M Code (Deny)

L140.6 - Invalid Coding Combination; Discharge Management with E/M Code (Deny)

To meet CCI requirements, billers should follow these steps:

1. Determine if the code to be billed is a mutually exclusive code.

Mutually exclusive procedures are those that cannot reasonably be performed in the same session (e.g., codes for “initial” and “subsequent” services).

If a mutually exclusive code and its “partner” are billed on the same claim, the system will allow the code with the lowest capped fee. If the “partner” code has been paid, the system will deny the billed code.

2. Determine if the code to be billed is a component of a comprehensive code that also will be billed or that has been billed.

The comprehensive code must be billed, if applicable. Claims for component codes that describe services distinct or separate from the services described by the comprehensive code may be reimbursed when billed with NCCI associated modifiers, if appropriate. CMS updates this modifier list quarterly. For current information please use the following link:

https://www.cms.gov/medicare/coding/nationalcorrectcodinitiated/version_update_changes.html

3. Determine if the code to be billed is a comprehensive code.

If it is a comprehensive code and one of its components has been billed and paid, that claim for the component code must be voided before the comprehensive code can be billed.

Component codes cannot be billed if the comprehensive code is the most appropriate code.

Social Determinants

Social determinants of health are the conditions in which a person is born, grows, lives, works and ages. ICD-10 codes have been created to correspond with these social determinants.

Social determinants of health take into account factors like the member’s education, employment, physical environment, socioeconomic status, and social support network. The

use of social determinants allows a provider to identify things such as illiteracy, unemployment, a lack of adequate food and safe drinking water, social exclusion and rejection, homelessness, alcoholism, and many other factors that could affect a member's overall health and wellbeing.

Beginning with dates of service on and after **April 1st, 2018**, AHCCCS will begin to monitor all claims for the presence of social determinant ICD-10 codes.

As appropriate within their scope of practice, providers should be routinely screening for, and documenting, the presence of social determinants. Information about the social determinant should be included in the member's chart.

Any social determinant ICD-10 diagnosis codes that are identified should be included on the submitted claims for AHCCCS members, in order to comply with state and federal coding requirements.

Note: Social determinants are ***not*** the primary ICD-10 code. They are secondary ICD-10 codes.

Dental providers will be ***exempt*** from the use of social determinants.

For a list of ICD-10 codes relevant to social determinants of health, please see Exhibit 4-1, Social Determinants of Health ICD-10 Code List in the Fee-For-Service Provider Billing Manual. The list of social determinants of health codes may be added to or updated on a quarterly basis. Providers should remain current in their use of these codes.

Anesthesia Services

Anesthesia services (except epidurals) require the *continuous physical presence* of the anesthesiologist or certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA).

Anesthesiologists and CRNAs must enter the appropriate American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) code (five-digit CPT procedure codes 00100 - 01999) in Field 24D and the total number of MINUTES in Field 24G of the CMS 1500 claim form.

The begin and end time of the anesthesia administration must be entered on the claim on the line immediately below Field 24D/ ASA code.

The number of minutes billed must not exceed the period of time expressed by the begin and end time entered on the claim.

AHCCCS uses the limits and guidelines as established by ASA for base and time units. Every 15 minutes or any portion thereof is equal to one unit of time. The AHCCCS system will calculate units based on minutes billed for most anesthesia procedures.

The AHCCCS system adds the base units for the ASA code to the number of base units (calculated from minutes billed) and multiplies the total by the established FFS rate to obtain the allowed amount.

Billing for labor and delivery

Providers should bill ASA code 01967 (Neuraxial labor analgesia/anesthesia for planned vaginal delivery (this includes the repeat subarachnoid needle placement and drug injection and/or any necessary replacement of an epidural catheter during labor)) for labor and delivery when epidural is used. Providers may bill for a maximum of 180 minutes (three hours).

If labor results in a Cesarean section, add-on code 01968 (Cesarean delivery following neuraxial labor analgesia/anesthesia) should be added. Providers should bill for the time of the Cesarean section portion of the service only. A base of 5 units is added for the ASA code 01967, and a base of 3 units is added for 01968.

For all other labor and delivery, ASA codes 01960 (Anesthesia for vaginal delivery only) and code 01961 (Anesthesia for Cesarean delivery only) should be used.

Providers who bill other CPT codes for additional procedures performed during anesthesia administration must use the units field to indicate the number of times the procedure was performed.

Providers should not include the Basic Unit Value listed in the ASA Manual as part of the units billed.

For example:

A provider who bills 36556 (Insertion of non-tunneled centrally inserted central venous catheter; age 5 years or older) should bill one unit.

Billing the Basic Unit Value of four would indicate placement of four catheters.

Reimbursement is based on capped fee schedule.

Anesthesia Medical Direction

The following modifiers are to be used for anesthesia medical direction:

QK- Medical direction of two, three or four concurrent anesthesia procedures

QX- Anesthesia, CRNA medically directed

QY- Medical direction of one CRNA by anesthesiologist

Reimbursement of each provider will be at 50% of the AHCCCS capped fee schedule.

Effective 05/01/2015 modifier AD – Medical supervision by a physician: more than four

concurrent anesthesia procedures will be reimbursed at 50% of the AHCCCS capped fee schedule.

Two separate claims must be filed for medically directed anesthesia procedures- one for the anesthesiologist and one for the CRNA. Medical direction can occur in several different scenarios. When billing for the anesthesia services, please refer to the following examples for appropriate modifier usage:

- An anesthesiologist is medically directing one CRNA. The anesthesiologist should bill with the QY modifier and the CRNA should bill with the QX modifier.
- An anesthesiologist is medically directing two, three or four CRNAs. The anesthesiologist should bill with the QK modifier and the CRNA should bill with the QX modifier.

The following anesthesia services are not covered:

- 00938 (Insertion of penile prosthesis)
- Qualifying circumstances codes
- Physical status codes

Peripheral Nerve Blocks for Postoperative Pain Management on the Date of Surgery

A peripheral nerve block (CPT codes 64400-64530) may be billed separately when the following conditions are met:

- The peripheral nerve block was performed for the purpose of postoperative pain management; *and*
- The operative anesthesia was general anesthesia, subarachnoid injection or epidural injection; *and*
- The adequacy of the operative anesthesia was not dependent on the peripheral nerve block; *and*
- A procedure note is included in the medical record.

Modifier 59 may be used to indicate that a separate peripheral nerve block injection was performed for postoperative pain management, rather than for intraoperative anesthesia.

Modifier 51 does not apply if one surgical code for a peripheral nerve block for postoperative pain management is reported in addition to the anesthesia code; however, if more than one surgical code is reported, then modifier 51 applies to the additional surgical code(s).

Please see the section (below) on Multiple Surgical Procedures for additional information on the use of Modifier 51.

Dental Services

In accordance with Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) R9-22-207, AHCCCS covers limited dental services for adult members (21 years of age and older).

For adult members (21 years of age and older), effective date of service 10/1/17, in accordance with A.R.S. 36-2907, an emergency dental benefit has been granted in an annual amount not to exceed \$1,000 per member per contract year (October 1st to September 30th) for emergency dental care and emergency extractions.

A dental emergency covered by this benefit is defined as an acute disorder of oral health resulting in severe pain and/or infection as a result of pathology or trauma.

The emergency dental benefit is in addition to the services that may be furnished by a dentist under specified circumstances, which are already covered by AHCCCS. For further details regarding covered dental emergencies please see AMPM 310–D1 Dental Services for Members 21 Years of Age and Older.

The emergency dental benefit is in addition to the non-emergency dental services for ALTCS members age 21 years and older, as specified in AMPM Policy 310-D2.

ALTCS Dental Services

Effective date of service 10/01/2016, the dental benefit for ALTCS members has been restored. Refer to FFS Chapter 21 ALTCS Services for coverage and billing information.

Dental Services for Members under Age 21: EPSDT Services

AHCCCS covers comprehensive health care for members under age 21 through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program.

EPSDT covers all medically necessary services described in federal law 42 USC 1396d to treat or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions identified in an EPSDT screening, whether or not the service is described in the State Plan.

Covered EPSDT dental services for members under age 21 and KidsCare members include, but are not limited to:

- Screening and preventive services as specified in the dental periodicity schedule;
- Emergency dental services; and
- All medically necessary therapeutic dental services.

Prior Authorization Requirements for Dental Services

PA is not required for emergency dental services, preventative or for medically necessary therapeutic dental services for EPSDT and KidsCare members.

Dental surgery services for EPSDT and KidsCare members require PA.

Pre-transplant dental services that are medically necessary in order for the member to receive the major organ or tissue transplant do require prior authorization from the AHCCCS transplant case manager.

Billing Requirements

Dentists must bill on the ADA 2012 claim form using CDT-4 codes.

Only oral surgeons registered as Provider Type 07 (Dentists) may use CPT Evaluation and Management (E/M) codes on the CMS 1500 claim form to bill AHCCCS for office visits.

Dentists who are not oral surgeons must use one of the following codes to bill for office visits and evaluation services:

- D0120 - Periodic oral exam
- D0140 - Limited oral evaluation -- problem focused
- D0150 - Comprehensive oral evaluation
- D0160 - Detailed and extensive oral exam -- problem focused
- D9430 - Office visit for observation (during regularly scheduled hours) – no other services performed
- D9440 - Office visit -- after regularly scheduled hours

Dentists may use appropriate E/M codes for hospital consultation, emergency room services, and hospital visits.

Effective 4/1/2014, AMPM Policy 431 EPSDT Oral Health Care advises that the physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner must perform an oral health screening as part of the EPSDT physical examination.

Physicians who have completed the AHCCCS required training may be reimbursed for fluoride varnish applications completed at the EPSDT visit for members who are at least 6 months of age, with at least 1 tooth eruption. Additional applications occurring every 6 months during an EPSDT visit, up until the member's 2nd birthday, may be reimbursed according to the AHCCCS fee schedule. Refer to AMPM Policy 431 for further details regarding fluoride varnish application and the AHCCCS recommended training information.

PCPs and attending physicians must refer EPSDT members to a dentist for appropriate services based on the needs identified through the screening process and for routine dental care based on the AHCCCS EPSDT Periodicity Schedule (AMPM Exhibit 431-1). Evidence

of the referral must be documented on the ESPDT Tracking Form and in the member's medical record.

Members must be assigned to a dental home by one year of age and seen by a dentist for routine preventative care according to the AHCCCS EPSDT Periodicity Schedule. The physician may refer EPSDT members for a dental assessment at an earlier age, if their oral health screening reveals potential carious lesions or other conditions requiring assessment and/or treatment by a dental professional. In addition to physician referrals, EPSDT members are allowed self-referral to an AHCCCS registered dentist.

Refer to AMPM Policy 431 for covered services, provider requirements, informed consents and treatment plans.

Informed Consent

Please refer to AMPM 310-D1 Dental Services for Members 21 Years of Age and Older for further information regarding informed consent requirements.

Notification Requirements for Charges to Members

Please refer to AMPM 310-D1 Dental Services for Members 21 Years of Age and Older for further information regarding notification requirements for charges to members.

Billing for Dental Services

Please refer to AMPM 310-D1 Dental Services for Members 21 Years of Age and Older for further information regarding informed billing requirements for dental services.

Discharge Management

Physicians and mid-level practitioners who bill Evaluation and Management (E/M) codes 99238 and 99239 for discharge management should not bill any other evaluation and management code for the same date when submitting claims to AHCCCS.

The E/M codes for hospital discharge day management are used to report all services provided on the date of discharge, including final examination of the patient, discussion of the hospital stay, instructions for continuing care, and preparation of discharge records.

If a provider submits a claim for discharge management and another E/M code for the same date, the E/M code will be paid, but the discharge management code will be denied.

EPSDT Program Services

AHCCCS covers comprehensive health care for members under age 21 through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Program.

EPSDT also covers all medically necessary services to treat or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions identified in an EPSDT screening whether or not the service is covered under the State Plan.

KidsCare (Title XXI) members are eligible for nearly the same services as EPSDT members eligible under Title XIX. However, KidsCare members are not eligible for licensed midwife services and home births.

EPSDT screening services are to be provided in compliance with AHCCCS medical policy, including the periodicity schedule, which meet reasonable standards of medical practice and specified screening services at each stage of a child's life. **Refer to AMPM Policy 430 for comprehensive changes effective 4/1/2014 for EPSDT** and Exhibit 430-1 for the updated EPSDT Periodicity Schedule.

The EPSDT screening requirements are:

- Comprehensive health, nutritional and developmental history
- Comprehensive unclothed physical examination
- Screening for immunizations appropriate to age and health history.
- Laboratory tests
- Health education
- Vision, speech and hearing assessment
- Age appropriate dental screening
- Behavioral health services
- Oral health screening
- Tuberculin skin testing

Effective 4/1/2014 EPSDT/Well Child visits are all-inclusive visits. The payment for the EPSDT is intended to cover all elements outlined in the AHCCCS EPSDT Periodicity Schedule (AMPM Exhibit 430-1). Refer to AMPM Policy 430 for exceptions to the all-inclusive visit global payment rate.

Claims must be submitted on CMS 1500 form. Providers must bill for preventative EPSDT services using the preventative service, office or other outpatient services and preventative



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medicine CPT codes (99381 – 99385, 99391 – 99395) with an EP modifier. EPSDT visits are paid at a global rate for the services specified in AMPM Policy 430. No additional reimbursement is allowed.

Providers must use an EP modifier to designate all services related to the EPSDT well child check-up, including routine vision and hearing screenings.

Providers must be registered as **Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program** providers and VFC vaccines must be used. Under the federal VFC program, providers are paid a capped fee for administration of vaccines to members 18 years old and younger.

For VFC claims incurred prior to 1/1/2013, providers must bill the appropriate CPT code for the immunization with the “SL” (State supplied vaccine) modifier that identifies the immunization as part of the VFC program.

Providers must *not* use the immunization administration CPT codes 90471, 90472, 90473, and 90474 when billing under the VFC program.

Because the vaccine is made available to providers free of charge, providers must not bill for the vaccine itself.

For VFC services incurred on/after 1/1/2013, Section 1202 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires AHCCCS to modify how providers submit claims for vaccine administration services.

Beginning with dates of service 1/1/2013, AHCCCS will require all providers to submit two CPT codes for VFC program services, both billed with modifier SL:

- One code will identify the vaccine administrative service as described by codes 90460, 90461, 90471, 90472, 90473 and 90474 and billed with SL modifier.
- The second code, with the SL modifier, will identify the actual vaccine administered.

24. A	B	C	D	E	F
Dates of Service	Place of Service	EMG	Procedures, Services or Supplies	Diagnosis Pointer	\$ Charges
1/1/13-1/1/13	11		90460 SL	1	\$xx.xx
1/1/13-1/1/13	11		90700-SL	1	0.00

Follow CPT guidelines for the appropriate administration code usage.

No payment will be made for the vaccine provided through the VFC program. Payment will be made for the administration at the rates in effect for that service at the time the VFC immunization was administered.

For a list of vaccines covered under the VFC program refer to Chapter 2 of the Vaccines for Children Operations Guide found at <http://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/immunization/index.php#vaccines-children-guide>.

REMINDER: these billing instructions are ONLY for vaccines through the VFC program administered to members 18 years or younger.

Family Planning Services

Family planning services are provided to eligible members who voluntarily choose to delay or prevent pregnancy and include covered medical, surgical, pharmacological and laboratory benefits.

Family planning services includes the provision of accurate information and counseling to allow eligible members to make informed decisions about the specific family planning methods available.

For further information regarding family planning services and contractor requirements please see AMPM 420, Family Planning Services.

Covered services include:

- Contraceptive counseling, medications, supplies and associated medical and laboratory examinations, including, but not limited to, oral and injectable contraceptives, intrauterine devices, long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARC), subdermal implantable contraceptives, diaphragms, condoms, foams, and suppositories;
- Voluntary sterilization (male and female);
- Associated medical and laboratory examinations and radiological procedures, including ultrasound studies related to family planning;
- Treatment of complications resulting from contraceptive use, including emergency treatment;
- Natural family planning education or referral to qualified health professionals;
- Post-coital emergency oral contraception within 72 hours after unprotected sexual intercourse;

- Pregnancy screening; and
- Screening and Treatment for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI).

Limitations and exclusions:

- Services for the diagnosis or treatment of infertility are not covered.
- Abortion counseling is not covered.
- Pregnancy terminations are not covered unless:
 - 1) The pregnancy termination is necessary to protect the life of the mother,
 - 2) The pregnancy termination is medically necessary to prevent a serious physical or mental health problem for the pregnant mother, or
 - 3) The pregnancy is the result of a rape or incest.
- Sterilization services are not covered for Federal Emergency Services (FES) members, and claims for sterilization services for FES members will be denied.

AHCCCS requires a completed Federal Consent Form to be submitted with all claims for voluntary sterilization procedures. This form is available in AMPM Exhibit 420-1.

Federal consent requirements for voluntary sterilization are:

- The member to be at least 21 years of age at the time consent is signed.
- The member to be mentally competent.
- Consent to be voluntary and obtained without duress.
- Thirty days, but not more than 180 days, to have passed between the date of informed consent and the date of sterilization, except in the case of a premature delivery or emergency abdominal surgery.
- At least 72 hours to have passed since the member gave informed consent for the sterilization if the member is to be sterilized at the time of a premature delivery or emergency abdominal surgery.
- The informed consent to have been given at least 30 days before the *expected* date of delivery in the case of premature delivery.
- The person securing the informed consent and the physician performing the sterilization procedure to sign and date the consent form.

- A copy of the signed Federal Consent Form to be submitted by each provider involved with the hospitalization and/or the sterilization procedure. Please refer to AMPM Attachment 420-1 for the form.
- The sterilization consent may not be obtained when an eligible member:
 - Is in labor or childbirth,
 - Is seeking to obtain or obtaining an abortion, or
 - Is under the influence of alcohol or other substances that affect that member's state of awareness.

Providers must bill for IUDs on the CMS 1500 claim form using the following codes:

- J7300 Intrauterine copper contraceptive (Paraguard)
- J7302 Levonorgestrel-releasing intrauterine contraceptive system, 52 mg (Mirena)
- S4989 Contraceptive intrauterine device (e.g. progestacert IUD), including implants and supplies

Prior to 1/1/2013 providers must bill for Depo-provera injections on the CMS 1500 claim form using HCPCS code J1055 - Depo-provera (150 mg). Effective 1/1/2013 the Depo-provera injections should bill billed with HCPCS code J1050 (1 mg).

Norplant insertion is no longer an AHCCCS-covered service because the manufacturer, Wyeth, is no longer distributing Norplant in the United States.

Do not bill for CPT codes:

- 11975 - Insertion, implantable contraceptive capsules; and
- 11977 - Removal with reinsertion, implantable contraceptive capsules.

Essure insertion must be billed on a CMS 1500 claim form using CPT code 58565.

Foot and Ankle Care

Effective date of service 10/1/2017 and later, in accordance with A.R.S. 32-801, podiatric physicians and surgeons may perform amputations of the partial foot and toe, but are excluded from performing an amputation of the leg or entire foot, and are excluded from administering an anesthetic other than local.

Effective date of service 10/1/2016 and later, medically necessary foot and ankle care is covered for persons age 21 and older when provided by a podiatrist or podiatric surgeon, when ordered by the primary care provider, attending physician or practitioner, for AHCCCS eligible members. The member's medical record must document the order for the podiatrist service. The podiatrist or podiatric surgeon must be an AHCCCS registered provider.

When billing for a podiatrist's services, the CMS 1500 field 17 must have Qualifier DK and the ordering provider's name. Field 17b must have the ordering provider's NPI. Podiatrist claims will be denied if these fields are blank or the ordering provider is not an AHCCCS registered provider.

Prior to date of service 10/1/2016

In accordance with Arizona Administrative Code A.A.C. R9-22-21, AHCCCS covers medically necessary foot and ankle care, including reconstructive surgeries, when ordered by a member's primary care provider, attending physician or practitioner for eligible members. The ordering provider must be indicated on the podiatrist's CMS 1500 claim. The podiatrist and the ordering provider must be active AHCCCS registered providers.

Foot and ankle services are not covered for adults (age 21 and older) when provided by a podiatrist or podiatric surgeon. '

Routine foot care is designated as those services performed in the absence of localized illness, injury or symptoms involving the foot. Routine foot care is considered medically necessary in very limited circumstances as described below. These services include:

- The cutting or removal of corns or calluses,
- The trimming of nails (including mycotic nails), and
- Other hygienic and preventive maintenance care in the realm of self-care (such as cleaning and soaking the feet, and the use of skin creams to maintain skin tone of both ambulatory and bedfast patients).

Coverage includes medically necessary foot and ankle care such as wound care and treatment of pressure ulcers.

Foot and ankle care also includes fracture care, reconstructive surgeries, and limited bunionectomy services.

Routine foot care is considered medically necessary when the member has a systemic disease of sufficient severity that performance of foot care procedures by a nonprofessional person would be hazardous.

Conditions that might necessitate medically necessary foot care include metabolic, neurological and peripheral vascular systemic diseases. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Arteriosclerosis obliterans (arteriosclerosis of the extremities, occlusive peripheral arteriosclerosis)
- Buerger's disease (thromboangiitis obliterans)
- Chronic thrombophlebitis
- Diabetes mellitus

- Peripheral neuropathies involving the feet
- Member receiving chemotherapy
- Pernicious anemia
- Hereditary disorder, i.e. hereditary sensory radicular neuropathy, Fabry's disease
- Hansen's disease or neurosyphilis
- Malabsorption syndrome
- Multiple sclerosis
- Traumatic injury
- Uremia (chronic renal disease)
- Anticoagulant therapy

Treatment of a fungal (mycotic) infection is considered medically necessary foot care and is covered in the following circumstances:

- A systemic condition, and
- Clinical evidence of mycosis of the toenail, and
- Compelling medical evidence documenting the member either:
 - Has a marked limitation of ambulation due to the mycosis which requires active treatment of the foot, or
 - In the case of a non-ambulatory member, has a condition that is likely to result in significant medical complications in the absence of such treatment.

Foot and Ankle Care Limitations

Coverage for medically necessary routine foot care must not exceed two visits per quarter or eight visits per contract year (this does not apply to EPSDT members). A "contract year" is defined as October 1-September 30.

Coverage of mycotic nail treatments will not exceed one bilateral mycotic nail treatment (up to ten nails) per 60 days (this does not apply to EPSDT members).

Neither general diagnoses such as arteriosclerotic heart disease, circulatory problems, vascular disease, venous insufficiency or incapacitation injuries or illnesses such as rheumatoid arthritis, CVA (stroke) or fractured hip are diagnosis under which routine foot care is covered.

Bunionectomy is covered only when the bunion is present with overlying skin ulceration, or neuroma secondary to bunion (neuroma to be removed at same surgery and documented by pathology report).

Bunionectomies are not covered if the sole indications are pain and difficulty finding appropriate shoes.

Foot and Ankle Care Prior Authorization Requirements

Prior to service date 10/1/2016 all foot and ankle services not covered by Medicare require Prior Authorization.

After service date 10/1/2016, PA is not required for evaluation and management services. Elective surgical services are subject to PA requirements. Please refer to AMPM Chapter sections K and Q for those PA requirements.

Health Care Acquired Conditions & Provider Preventable Conditions

Section 2702 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) prohibits Medicaid programs from reimbursing certain providers for services resulting from a “provider preventable condition” (PPC). PPCs are comprised of two categories:

- 1) health care acquired conditions (HCACs), and
- 2) other provider preventable conditions (PPCs).

Beginning July 1, 2012, AHCCCS will implement policies that conform to the federal requirements regarding HCACs and PPCs.

HCAC

For Medicaid, HCACs are defined as conditions identified by Medicare as Hospital Acquired Conditions (HACs) occurring in the inpatient hospital setting, which includes any of the following:

- Retained foreign object following surgical procedures;
- Air embolism;
- Blood incompatibility;
- Stage III and IV pressure ulcers;
- Injuries resulting from falls and trauma;
- Catheter associated urinary tract infections;
- Vascular catheter associated infections;
- Manifestations of poor glycemic control;
- Mediastinitis following coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) procedures;
- Surgical site infections following orthopedic surgery procedures involving spinal column fusion or re-fusion, arthrodeses of the shoulder or elbow, or other procedures on the shoulder or elbow;
- Surgical site infections following bariatric surgery procedures;
- Deep vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism following total hip or knee procedures, except in pediatric or obstetrical patients.

Inpatient hospitals will not be paid any incremental or additional fees for treating an HCAC that is not present on admission to the facility, regardless of the cause of the HCAC. No reduction in payments will be assessed if the HCAC is present on admission or if the

identification of the HCAC would not otherwise result in additional payments to the provider. The amount not paid to the facility is limited to the additional payments that would otherwise be paid for the treatment of and related to the HCAC.

For Medicaid, HCACs are defined as conditions identified by Medicare as Hospital Acquired Conditions (HACs) occurring in the inpatient hospital setting which includes any of the following diagnosis codes E870-E876.9.

PPC

Unlike HCACs, PPCs are not confined to conditions occurring in the inpatient hospital setting, but may occur in either the inpatient or outpatient setting. In this case, “outpatient” is not limited to hospital outpatient departments, but may include other outpatient settings, such as a clinic, Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC), Federally Qualified Health Center, or physician’s office.

State Medicaid programs have significant flexibility to define conditions they consider to be PPCs, but at a minimum must identify any of the following three occurrences as a PPC:

- Wrong surgical or other invasive procedure performed on the patient;
- Surgical or other invasive procedure performed on the wrong body part; or
- Surgical or other invasive procedure performed on the wrong patient.

At this time AHCCCS will adopt the minimum list of procedures above as PPCs for purposes of implementing Section 2702 of the ACA. When a PPC occurs in either the inpatient or outpatient setting, payments for the services resulting in the PPC will not be made to either the facility in which the PPC occurred or to the professionals involved in performing the procedure that resulted in the PPC.

Reporting PPCs

Under the federal rule implementing Section 2702, providers must affirmatively report the occurrence of any PPC in a Medicaid member, regardless of whether the provider has submitted a claim for payment for the services that resulted in the PPC. Providers should report these occurrences through the use of the appropriate codes on the UB04 claim form in the case of a hospital or the CMS 1500 claim form for professionals.

AHCCCS will utilize the following modifiers to define conditions they consider to be PPCs:

- PA: Surgery wrong body part
- PB: Surgery wrong patient
- PC: Wrong surgery on patient

Health Risk Assessment and Screening Tests

For adults (age 21 years old and older) AHCCCS covers health risk assessment and screening tests pursuant to A.A.C. R9-22-205 provided by a physician, primary care

provider or other licensed practitioner within the scope of his/ her practice under State law for all members.

These services include appropriate clinical health risk assessments and screening tests, immunizations, and health education, as appropriate for age, history and current health status.

For adults (age 21 years and older) well exams are not covered. Well exams are physical examinations in the absence of any known disease or symptom or any specific medical complaint by the patient precipitating the examination. Effective with date of service 10/1/2013 adult (age 21 years and older) well visits and well exam coverage will be reinstated.

Certain preventive services such as immunizations, PAP smears, colonoscopies, and mammograms are covered for adults (age 21 and older). (For adult immunizations, refer to AMPM Policy 310-M.)

Health risk assessment and screening tests are also covered for members (under age 21) through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program and KidsCare Program.

Preventive health risk assessment and screening tests services for non-hospitalized adults (age 21 and older) include, but are not limited to:

- Hypertension screening (annually)
- Cholesterol screening (once; additional tests based on history)
- Mammography (annually after age 40; recommended annually for younger females who are at high risk due to immediate family history)
- Cervical cytology (annually for a sexually active woman; after three successive normal exams the test may be less frequent)
- Colon cancer screening (digital rectal exam and stool blood test, annually after age 50 as well as baseline colonoscopy after age 50)
- Sexually transmitted disease screening (at least once during pregnancy; other, based on history)
- Tuberculosis screening (once; additional testing based on history or for AHCCCS members residing in a facility, as necessary per health care institution licensing requirements)
- Immunizations (refer to AMPM 310-M Immunizations for details)

- HIV-screening
- Prostate screening (annually after age 50; recommended annually for males 40 and older who are at high risk due to immediate family history)
- Physical examinations, periodic health examinations or assessments, diagnostic work ups or health protection packages designed to: provide early detection of disease; detect the presence of injury or disease; establish a treatment plan; evaluate the results or progress of treatment plan or the disease; or to establish the presence and characteristics of a physical disability which may be the result of disease or injury.

Screening services provided more frequently than these professionally recommended guidelines will not be covered unless medically necessary.

Physical examinations performed to satisfy the demands of outside public or private agencies such as the following are not covered services:

- Qualification for insurance
- Pre-employment physical examination
- Qualification for sports or physical exercise activities (does not apply to EPSDT members)
- Pilots examinations (FAA)
- Disability certification to establish any kind of periodic payments
- Evaluation for establishing third party liability
- In accordance with A.A.C. R9-22-205 preventive examination in the absence of any known disease or symptom for members 21 years of age or older

Prior Authorization requirements:

Prior Authorization for medically necessary health risk assessment and screening services is not required.

Hysterectomy Services

AHCCCS covers medically necessary hysterectomy services.

AHCCCS does not cover a hysterectomy service if it is performed solely to render the individual permanently incapable of reproducing.

Coverage of hysterectomy services is limited to those cases in which medical necessity has been established by careful diagnosis, and, except for treatment of carcinoma and management of life-threatening hemorrhage, has been preceded by a trial of therapy (medical or surgical) which was proven unsatisfactory.

Hysterectomy services may be considered medically necessary without a trial of therapy in the following cases:

- Invasive carcinoma of the cervix
- Ovarian carcinoma
- Endometrial carcinoma
- Carcinoma of the fallopian tube
- Malignant gestational trophoblastic disease
- Life-threatening uterine hemorrhage, uncontrolled by conservative therapy
- Potentially life-threatening hemorrhage as in cervical pregnancy, interstitial pregnancy, or placenta abruptio

Hysterectomy services require prior authorization. In a life-threatening emergency, PA is not required, but the physician must certify in writing that an emergency existed.

All claims for hysterectomy services are subject to medical review.

A hysterectomy consent form (See AMPM Chapter 800 Exhibit 820-1), or a hospital consent form that contains the same information as the Exh. 820-1 hysterectomy consent form, must be submitted with the claims. The consent form must state that the patient will be permanently incapable of having children.

The consent form must be signed by the member, the physician who performs the hysterectomy, the person who obtains the member's consent and, if applicable, an interpreter.

Licensed Midwife Services

A licensed midwife is an individual licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services to provide maternity care pursuant to ARS §36-751 and AAC Title 9, Chapter 16, Article 1.

This provider type does not include certified nurse midwives licensed by the Arizona Board of Nursing as nurse practitioners or physician assistants licensed by the Arizona Board of Medical Examiners.

Labor and delivery services provided by licensed midwives generally are provided in the member's home. Licensed midwife services cannot be provided to AHCCCS members in a hospital, free-standing birthing center, or other licensed health care institution.

Licensed midwives must obtain prior authorization from AHCCCS CMSU. Documentation certifying risk status of the member's pregnancy must be submitted prior to providing licensed midwife services.

Licensed midwife services may be provided only to pregnant AHCCCS members for whom an uncomplicated prenatal course and a low-risk labor and delivery can be anticipated.

- The age of the member must be a consideration in the risk status evaluation.
- Risk status must be determined at the time of the first visit and each trimester thereafter.
- Members initially determined to have a high-risk pregnancy or members whose physical condition changes to high risk during the course of the pregnancy must immediately be referred to an AHCCCS-registered physician or practitioner.

Upon delivery of the newborn, the licensed midwife is responsible for conducting the newborn examination and for referring the mother and newborn to a physician for follow-up care of any assessed problematic conditions.

The licensed midwife also must notify the AHCCCS Administration's Newborn Reporting Line no later than three days after the birth in order to enroll the newborn with a health plan.

Licensed midwives must bill for delivery using CPT-4 code 59400 - Routine obstetrical care including antepartum care, vaginal delivery (with or without episiotomy and/or forceps) and postpartum care.

Reimbursement is the lesser of billed charges or the AHCCCS capped fee.

If complications arise during the pregnancy and the woman must be referred to a physician, the licensed midwife may bill for prenatal care only using CPT code 99212 - Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an established patient. Each visit date should be billed on a separate line of the CMS 1500 claim form.

Multi-Specialty Interdisciplinary Clinic

Multi-Specialty Interdisciplinary Clinics (MSIC) bring many specialty providers together in one location. For children with a CRS designation, or who formerly had a CRS designation, AHCCCS has an established rate schedule available on the AHCCCS website at: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/RatesAndBilling/FFS/MSICrates.html>

MSICs are flagged in the AHCCCS system to ensure the appropriate rates are paid. For dates of service on or after October 1st, 2018, MSICs should follow the below billing guidelines (regardless of their currently registered Provider Type for the MSIC).

Claim Form

MSICs may submit claims using the:

- CMS 1500 Claim Form (or the 837 Professional Format)
- ADA 1200 Claim Form (or the 837 Dental Format)

Only these Form types will permit reimbursement using the MSIC fee schedule, including reimbursement of the T1015 procedure code.

For dental visits billed on either the ADA Form or the 837 Dental format, the MSIC may separately submit the T1015 procedure code on a Form 1500.

The MSIC may include all services provided to a member on a single date of service on one or multiple claim forms. If multiple claim forms are used, the MSIC NPI must be used as the rendering provider on each claim.

Rendering Provider

MSICs should use the MSIC NPI as the rendering provider for the claim.

NOTE: Reimbursement for T1015 (MSIC Service Coordination Payment) as well as use of the MSIC fee schedule will only apply when the MSIC is the rendering provider, which is triggered by the MSIC NPI.

Billing T1015 for CRS Members

MSIC-eligible visits may be billed with a T1015 procedure code once per day, per MSIC, and only when the member is a current CRS or former CRS member.

Multiple visits in the same day by a single MSIC are eligible for only one T1015 code payment.



The T1015 procedure code may be added to any of the claims which account for the member’s visit on a single date of service, or may stand alone on a separate claim form.

It is preferred that the MSIC bill utilizing the member’s assigned AHCCCS ID. However, AHCCCS will accept a claim if the historically-assigned CRS ID is utilized.

Reimbursement

If the MSIC bills a rate for a CRS or former CRS member that is less than the AHCCCS MSIC fee schedule, the AHCCCS “lesser of” reimbursement policy will prevail and cause the claim to be paid at billed charges rather than the MSIC fee schedule rate.

If no covered procedure codes are reported for the T1015 date of service, no T1015 reimbursement will apply.

Services which are typically “incident to” a visit, such as lab, radiology, immunizations or other testing, and pharmacy, but are not provided on the same date of service as a visit, are not eligible for T1015 reimbursement.

Professional Practitioner

In order to retain information related to the actual professional practitioner participating in or performing services associated with MSIC visits, the professional practitioner must also be reported on all claims as outlined below.

Reporting the professional (provider) participating in/performing services:

CMS Form 1500 (Paper Claim): ITEM NUMBER 19 - TITLE: Additional Claim Information (Designated by NUCC)

One Participating or Performing Provider – XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)ProviderName (last, first 20 characters)

Up to Two Participating or Performing Providers may be reported on a single claim – XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)Provider Name (last, first 20 characters) 3 blanks XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)ProviderName (last, first 20 characters)

ADA Form (Paper Claim): Field 35. Remarks



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One Participating or Performing Provider – XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)ProviderName (last, first 20 characters)

Up to Two Participating or Performing Providers may be reported on a single claim – XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)Provider Name (last, first 20 characters) 3 blanks
XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)ProviderName (last, first 20 characters)

837 Professional (Electronic Claim) and 837 Dental (Electronic Claim): 2300 NTE Loop

Loop	Element	Description on 837-P 5010 A1 ENC	ID	Min. Max.	Use	Note	AHCCCS Usage/Expected Value (Codes/Notes/Comments)
2300	NTE	CLAIM NOTE		1	S		
2300	NTE01	Note Reference Code	ID	3-3	R	Utilize assigned values	Expect 'ADD' – Additional Information
2300	NTE02	Claim Note Text	AN	1-80	R	Expect Claim Note Text	One Participating or Performing Provider - XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)Provider Name Up to Two Participating or Performing Providers may be reported on a single claim - XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)Provider Name XXProviderNPI(if a registerable Provider) or 9999999999(if not a registerable provider)Provider Name

- Do not enter a space, hyphen, slash or other separator between the qualifier code and the number or the NPI number and the Provider Name.
- XX is the actual Qualifier Code designated by the standards body to indicate an NPI.
- When reporting a second practitioner, enter three blank spaces and then the next qualifier and number/code/Provider Name.
- At this time the reporting of Participating Providers beyond 2 occurrences is not supported, as defined in the standards for the transaction.

Generally all Billing Rules, unless noted as exceptions, apply to both Medicaid-only as well as Medicaid secondary claims. Billing instructions, with a Primary Payer other than AHCCCS to ensure appropriate processing, are outlined below.

When Medicare is the Primary Payer:

Crossover claims may be received electronically from the Medicare plan with Medicare's specified coding that will not match to AHCCCS coding requirements for the inclusion of a T1015 code. In this case the MSIC should:

- Submit a separate claim form with the T1015 code related to the visit(s), *and*
- Ensure that the Medicare deductible/coinsurance/copay total amounts are left blank (do not enter 0's) on the claim form.

If the Medicare claim did not electronically crossover from the Medicare plan, the MSIC may:

1. Submit the T1015 code on the related visit claim, *or*
2. Submit a separate claim with the T1015 code related to the visit(s). In this case, the Medicare deductible/coinsurance/copay total amounts should be left blank (do not enter 0's) on the claim form.

When Other Coverage Pays as Primary:

The MSIC should either:

1. Submit the T1015 code on the related visit claim, *or*
2. Submit a separate claim form with the T1015 code related to the visit(s).

Naturopathic Physicians

Naturopathic physicians blend natural medicine with conventional diagnosis and treatment. They treat the cause of illness, work to prevent disease whenever possible and teach patients how to live healthy lives using tools including nutrition, lifestyle medicine, physical medicine and herbal therapies.

As of 3/1/2019, AHCCCS-covered Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) program services provided to AHCCCS EPSDT members by licensed naturopathic physicians may be reimbursed. EPSDT provides comprehensive treatment and preventive health care

services for Title XIX/XXI members under the age of 21. For additional information about the EPSDT program refer to AMPM 430, EPSDT Services, at:

- <https://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/Downloads/MedicalPolicyManual/400/430.pdf>
NOTE: Naturopathic physician services are not covered for AHCCCS members 21 years of age and older.

This AHCCCS provider type is active and is designated as 17-Naturopathic Physician in the AHCCCS Provider Enrollment system.

In order to submit claims for naturopathic physician services provided to FFS members, an active AHCCCS provider registration is required.

Claims may be reimbursed retroactively to the effective date of 3/1/2019 for registered, eligible providers who provided medically necessary EPSDT services subject to timeliness rules.

Nutritionist Services

Nutritionists can bill for services covered under codes B4034-B9999, G0270, G0271, S9470, 97802-97804.

Nutritional evaluations are covered under the following circumstances:

- Hospice services
Dietary services which include a nutritional evaluation and dietary counseling when necessary
- Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN)
AHCCCS follows Medicare guidelines for the provision of TPN services. TPN is covered for members over age 21 when it is medically necessary and the only method to maintain adequate weight and strength.

AHCCCS covers TPN for members receiving EPSDT and KidsCare members when medically necessary and not necessarily the sole source of nutrition. Refer to Chapter 400 of the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual for complete information.

- Transplant Services
Nutritional assessments - Refer to Chapter 310 of the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual for complete information.

REMINDER: Diabetic Education services are NOT an AHCCCS covered service.

Obstetrical Services

Refer to AMPM Chapter 400 Medical Policy for Maternal and Child Health for federal and state regulatory requirements. AMPM Exhibit 410-3 pages 1-5 provides Initial Screening and Antepartum Risk Assessment Tools that can be used as a guide. AMPM Chapter 410-D1 states “Physicians and practitioners must follow the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists standards of care, including the use of a standardized medical risk assessment tool and ongoing risk assessment.”

The AHCCCS global obstetrical (OB) package includes **all** OB visits prior to the delivery, the delivery, postpartum visits, and all services associated with admission to and discharge from a hospital for delivery.

Evaluation and management (E/M) codes for office and/or hospital visits may not be unbundled from the global OB code and billed separately. Claims for these services will be denied when billed in addition to the global OB code.

The global OB package includes:

1 visit/month for the first 28 weeks gestation	7 visits
Biweekly visits to 36 weeks gestation	4 visits
1 visit/week up to delivery date (39 weeks gestation)	3+ visits
All inpatient visits including admit and discharge from the hospital	
All postpartum visits for 60 days following discharge from the hospital, including family planning	

Global obstetric codes include all antepartum and postpartum services and therefore encompass all services rendered to the mother.

Medical complications of pregnancy *may* require additional resources outside the global OB care package as outlined above and may be reported separately. The medical complication(s) must be present as supported by the medical documentation, including but not limited to, maternal medical history & physical, lab results and imaging reports.

The global OB package does not include:

- Consultation by a specialist other than OB/G when referred by the treating physician or practitioner;
- Consultation by an OB/G specialist physician not affiliated with the treating physician or practitioner;
- Other services as supported by medical necessity with documentation.

Providers *must* bill the global OB code if the member is seen five or more times prior to delivery.

Physicians, practitioners and certified nurse practitioners in midwifery (CNMs) may not bill the global OB package if the member has been seen for less than 5 visits prior to delivery.

If a CNM refers a member to a *non-affiliated* physician for on-going OB care, that physician may bill for the visits plus the delivery, unless the requirements for billing the global OB code are met.

The CNM who referred the member may bill for the visits that occurred prior to referring the patient to the *non-affiliated* physician for on-going OB care.

The CNM may not bill for the delivery or global OB code if the delivery is billed by another provider.

Billing for other than total care

- A provider may not bill the global OB code or codes for postpartum care if the delivery is the only service provided.
- A provider who performs a *delivery and subsequent postpartum care only* should consult the CPT code book for the appropriate CPT codes.
- A provider billing for *postpartum care only* should use CPT code 59430.
- A provider billing for *antepartum care only* should use CPT codes 59425 (4 - 6 visits and services) or 59426 (7 or more visits and services).
- For 1 - 3 antepartum care visits, a provider should use the appropriate E/M Codes.

Global obstetric codes include all antepartum and postpartum services and therefore encompass all services rendered to the mother, including instances of multiple gestations.

The global code includes delivery services for one baby.

When billing delivery services for twin births, providers should bill only one global obstetric care code. Delivery of the second baby should be billed using the appropriate code for delivery only.

Obstetrical Services for Members with Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE)

Members eligible under Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE), when providers are billing for prenatal services, should bill the AHCCCS Administration for prenatal visits utilizing the appropriate E&M code performed during the HPE period.

Global obstetric billing for total OB care is only applicable for the plan in effect on the date of delivery and is only applied if global delivery guidelines are met (i.e. 5 or more visits performed while member is eligible under the plan). If guidelines are not met services should be billed as Fee-For-Service.

Opioid Use Disorder and Medication Assisted Treatment

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) is the use of medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies for the treatment of substance use disorders. A combination of medication and behavioral therapies is effective in the treatment of substance use disorders, and can help some people to sustain recovery.

To address the opioid use epidemic, the AHCCCS Administration and its Contractors shall provide coverage for medically necessary, cost-effective, and federally and state reimbursable behavioral health medications prescribed by a PCP when used to treat Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). For OUD the PCP must refer the member to a behavioral health provider for the psychological and/or behavioral therapy component of the MAT model and coordinate care with the behavioral health provider.

For further information regarding MAT please refer to AMPM 510, Primary Care Providers.

Ordering Provider

Effective 1/1/2012 for FFS the following services require the submission of an ordering provider:

Laboratory	Temporary K and Q codes
Radiology	Orthotics
Medical and Surgical Supplies	Prosthetics
Respiratory DME	Vision codes (V-codes)
Enteral and Parenteral Therapy	97001-97546
Durable Medical Equipment	
Drugs (J-Codes)	

Ordering providers can only be one of the following provider types:

- M.D.
- D.O.
- Optometrist
- Physician Assistant
- Registered Nurse Practitioner
- Dentist
- Podiatrist
- Psychologist
- Certified Nurse Midwife

Claims submitted without the ordering provider listed will be denied.

Pathology and Laboratory Services

Diagnostic testing and screening are covered services.

Pass-through billing by which the physician pays the laboratory for tests and then bills AHCCCS for the lab services is not allowed.

AHCCCS follows Medicare guidelines that specify which codes may be billed using the professional (26) and/or technical lab component (TC) modifiers.

When the procedure code for the test is for the technical component only or the professional component only, the procedure should be billed without a modifier.

Laboratory tests with automated results do not have a professional component, and claims for the professional component should not be billed for those laboratory services.

Laboratory services for hospitalized members must be included on the UB-04 inpatient claim. These services may not be unbundled and billed as -TC separately from the inpatient claim.

In accordance with Medicare guidelines, physicians may bill only a limited number of CPT codes for pathology services performed in a hospital setting.

- AHCCCS follows Medicare guidelines and will only pay physicians and other individual practitioners for the medical interpretation of a pathology test performed at a hospital.
- AHCCCS does not reimburse physicians for the technical portion of tests performed at hospitals or for any indirect costs, such as supervising the laboratory.
 - The hospital is reimbursed for the technical component of the test performed in its facility.
 - The hospital is also responsible for compensating employees that may be supervising the lab.

Pregnancy Terminations

AHCCCS does not cover abortion counseling and pregnancy terminations unless:

- The pregnant member suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness, including a life endangering physical condition caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself, that would, as certified by a physician, place the member in danger of death unless the pregnancy is terminated, or
- The pregnancy is a result of rape or incest, or
- The pregnancy termination is medically necessary according to the medical judgment of a licensed physician who attests that continuation of the pregnancy could reasonably be expected to pose a serious physical or mental health problem for the pregnant member by:

- Creating a serious physical or mental health problem for the pregnant member, or
- Seriously impairing a bodily function of the pregnant member, or
- Causing dysfunction of a bodily organ or part of the pregnant member, or
- Exacerbating a health problem of the pregnant member, or
- Preventing the pregnant member from obtaining treatment for a health problem.

All medically necessary abortions require prior authorization (PA) except in cases of medical emergency.

In the event of a medical emergency, all documentation of medical necessity must accompany the claim when submitted for reimbursement.

The request for PA must be accompanied by a completed *Certificate of Medical Necessity for Pregnancy Termination (See the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM), Exhibit 410-4)*.

The AHCCCS Care Management Services Unit (CMSU) will review the request and the Certificate of Medical Necessity for Pregnancy Termination and may authorize the procedure if medically necessary.

Refer to the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM) Chapter 410 Section 8 for further criteria and additional required documentation

Radiology and Medical Imaging Services

Diagnostic testing, imaging and MRI are covered services.

Positron emission tomography (PET) scans are covered only at PET imaging centers with PET scanners that have been approved by the FDA.

No PA is required for medically necessary radiology and medical imaging services.

Radiology services provided to hospitalized members must be included on the UB-04 claim.

- These services may not be unbundled and billed separately from the inpatient claim.

The professional services of a radiologist may be billed separately with a 26 modifier.

Reporting School Site Information for Services Performed in Schools

Effective for services as of 7/1/2021, in order to retain information related to the actual school site where the services are performed, the 9-digit State CTDS identifier assigned to the school shall also be reported on all claims (as outlined below). A listing of the school 9-digit



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CTDS identifier codes will be provided on the AHCCCS Medical Coding Resources webpage.

Reporting the school site where services are performed:

CMS Form 1500 (Paper Claim): ITEM NUMBER 19 - TITLE: Additional Claim Information (Designated by NUCC).

School Identifier – 0B (State License) followed by the 9 Digit School ID

Example –

0BNNNNNNNNN

ADA Form (Paper Claim): Field 35. Remarks

School Identifier – 0B (State License) followed by the 9 Digit School ID

Example –

0BNNNNNNNNN

837 Professional (Electronic Claim) and 837 Dental (Electronic Claim): 2300 NTE Loop

Loop	Element	Description 837-P 5010 A1 ENC	ID	Min. Max	Use	Note	AHCCCS Usage/Expected Value (Codes/Notes/Comments)
2300	NTE	CLAIM NOTE		1	S		
2300	NTE01	Note Reference Code	ID	3-3	R	Utilize assigned values	Expect 'ADD' – Additional Information
2300	NTE02	Claim Note Text	AN	1-80	R	Expect Claim Note Text	School Identifier – 0B (State License) followed by the School ID Example – 0BNNNNNNNNN

Reporting School Site Information as an FQHC/RHC

The FQHC/RHC shall list themselves as the rendering provider. Additionally, the School Identifier as well as the participating provider shall be entered on the claim form, per the instructions in Chapter 10 of the FFS Provider Billing Manual, FQHC/RHC Addendum. See the Chapter 10 Addendum for examples.

- Do not enter a space, hyphen, slash or other separator between the qualifier code and the number.

- 0B is the actual Qualifier Code designated by the standards body to indicate a State License.

Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapies

AHCCCS covers physical, occupational, speech and respiratory therapy services that are ordered by a primary care provider (PCP), or attending physician for FFS members,

including ALTCS members when approved by the ALTCS Case Managers, and provided by, or under the direct supervision of a licensed therapist. Refer to AMPM Chapter 300 Section 310-X and AMPM Chapter 1200 for additional information regarding ALTCS covered rehabilitation services. Refer to AMPM Chapter 820 for Prior Authorization requirements.

Outpatient rehabilitation therapy services are *NOT* covered for FESP members.

Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy (OT) services are medically ordered treatments to restore a skill or level of function and maintain that skill or level of function once restored, or to acquire a new skill or a new level of function and maintain that skill or level of function once acquired. OT is intended to improve the member's ability to perform those tasks required for independent functioning.

Occupational Therapists must be licensed by the Arizona Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners, or governing Board of the State where the therapist practices or a certified OT assistant (under the supervision of the occupational therapist) licensed by the Arizona Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners.

Effective date of service 10/1/2017 and later, occupational therapy is covered for acute and ALTCS members 21 years of age and older in accordance with AMPM Policy 310-X. Benefit limits for acute care members are as follows:

- A. 15 visits per contract year (October 1-September 30) to restore a particular skill or function the member previously had but lost due to injury or disease and maintain that function once restored; and
- B. 15 visits per contract year (October 1-September 30) to attain or acquire a particular skill or function never learned or acquired and maintain that function once acquired.

Outpatient OT services are covered when medically necessary for EPSDT, KidsCare, and ALTCS members.

AHCCCS covers medically necessary OT services provided to all members in an inpatient or outpatient setting, when services are ordered by the member's PCP/attending physician as follows:

- A. Inpatient OT services are covered for all members who are receiving inpatient care

at a hospital (or a nursing facility).

B. Outpatient

- a. Outpatient OT services are covered for EPSDT and KidsCare members when medically necessary.
- b. Outpatient OT services are covered for acute care members, 21 years of age and older, in accordance with AMPM Policy 310-X
- c. Outpatient OT services are covered for ALTCS members in accordance with AMPM Policy 310-X, as authorized by the ALTCS Case Manager.

Therapy services may include, but are not limited to:

- Cognitive training
- Exercise modalities
- Hand dexterity
- Hydrotherapy
- Joint protection
- Manual exercise
- Measuring, fabrication or training in use of prosthesis, arthrosis, assistive device or splint
- Perceptual motor testing and training
- Reality orientation
- Restoration of activities of daily living
- Sensory reeducation, and
- Work simplification and/or energy conservation.

Outpatient settings include, but are not limited to: occupational therapy clinics, outpatient hospital units, FQHCS, home health settings and physician offices.

Occupational therapy maintenance, not associated with maintenance following restoration or acquisition of a newly acquired skill or level of function, is excluded.

Service limits will be applied to outpatient occupational therapy CPT codes 97001 – 97546 for AHCCCS enrolled members as follows:

- Services occurring on the same day with either the same or different providers will count as a single visit.
- Multiple services provided on the same day will be counted as a single visit.

An outpatient OT visit is defined as service(s):

- Identified by CPT codes 97001-97546,
- Received on one date of service,
- Billed on form types 1500 and UB-04,
- By any provider type except 14 – Physical Therapist, or 22 – Nursing Home; and
- Billed with any place of service except 31 – Nursing Home, 32 – Nursing facility, or 33 – Custodial facility.

Prior Authorization

No PA is required for covered outpatient occupational therapy services. Refer to AMPM Policy 310-X for limitations.

The PA for inpatient occupational therapy services is included in the PA for facility services.

For Tribal ALTCS members that receive therapies in an outpatient, skilled nursing or inpatient setting, please contact the tribal case manager for PA requirements.

Physical Therapy

Physical therapy (PT) is an AHCCCS covered treatment service to restore, maintain or improve muscle tone, joint mobility or physical function.

Physical Therapists must be licensed by the Arizona Board of Physical Therapy or the governing Board of the State where the therapist practices. A Physical Therapy Assistant (under the supervision of the PT according to A.A.C. 24, Article 3) must be certified by the Arizona Physical Therapy Board of Examiners. Out of state physical therapists providing services to AHCCCS members outside the State of Arizona must meet applicable State and/or Federal requirements.

AHCCCS covers medically necessary PT services for members in an inpatient or outpatient setting, when services are ordered by the member's PCP/attending physician as follows:

1. Inpatient PT services are covered for all members who are receiving inpatient care at a hospital (or a nursing facility).
2. Outpatient
 - a. Outpatient PT services are covered for EPSDT and KidsCare members when medically necessary.
 - b. Outpatient PT services are covered for acute care members, 21 years of age and older, in accordance with AMPM Policy 310-X.
 - c. Outpatient PT services are covered for ALTCS members in accordance with AMPM Policy 301-X as authorized by the ALTCS Case Manager.

Outpatient settings include, but are not limited to: physical therapy clinics, outpatient hospital units, FQHCS, home health settings and physician offices.

Physical therapy prescribed only as a maintenance regimen is excluded.

An outpatient PT visit is defined as service(s):

- Identified by CPT codes 97001-97546,
- Received on one date of service,
- Billed on form types 1500 and UB-04,

- By any provider type except 13 – Occupational Therapist, or 22 – Nursing Home; and
- Billed with any place of service except 31 – Nursing Home, 32 – Nursing facility, or 33 – Custodial facility.

Benefit limits apply to outpatient physical therapy CPT codes 97001 – 97546 for acute and ALTCS members 21 years of age and older as follows:

- Services occurring on the same day with either the same or different providers will count as a single visit.
- Multiple services provided on the same day will be counted as a single visit.

For ALTCS PT limits please refer to Chapter 21.

Service limits prior to service date 01/01/2014

In accordance with Arizona Administrative Code A.A.C. R9-22-215, outpatient PT services are covered for adult members, 21 years of age and older (ACUTE and ALTCS), as follows:

- A. AHCCCS members who are not Medicare eligible are limited to 15 outpatient visits per contract year regardless of whether or not the member changes Contractors. (Contract year is defined as October 1-September 30.)
- B. For AHCCCS members, who are also Medicare members, refer to AMPM Chapter 300, Exhibit 300-3A regarding Medicare cost sharing and the outpatient physical therapy limit.

Dual Eligible refers to a member with income above 100% FPL who is Medicare and AHCCCS eligible (also known as Medicare Primary, non-QMB dual). The member does not qualify for the Federal QMB program. The health plan is responsible for the Medicare cost sharing amount (Medicare's deductible, copay and coinsurance) up to 15 PT visits.

If the 15 PT visit limit is reached prior to the Medicare maximum dollar amount, the health plan will pay the Medicare cost sharing up to the 15 visit limit per contract year. As part of their Medicare benefit, members may opt to receive service up to Medicare maximum dollar amount; however the Medicare cost sharing for any visits beyond the 15 visit limit allowed by AHCCCS are the member's responsibility.

Should the member exhaust their Medicare dollar maximum amount prior to utilizing the 15 PT visit limit allowed by AHCCCS, the additional visits up to maximum of 15 are the responsibility of the health plan.

QMB Dual refers to a member with income not exceeding 100% FPL who qualifies for Medicare under the Federal QMB program and is enrolled in Medicaid. The health plan is responsible for the Medicare cost sharing amount (Medicare deductible and coinsurance) up to the Medicare maximum dollar amount.

If the 15 PT visit limit is reached prior to the Medicare maximum dollar amount, the health plan will continue to pay the Medicare cost sharing for PT visits until the Medicare maximum dollar amount for therapy is reached.

Should the member exhaust their Medicare maximum dollar amount prior to utilizing the 15 PT visit limit allowed by AHCCCS, the additional visits up to maximum of 15 are the responsibility of the health plan.

Effective service date 1/1/2014 and later, service limits for medically necessary outpatient physical therapy for adults (age 21 years and older) are as follows:

- A. 15 visits per contract year (October 1-September 30) to restore a particular skill or function the member previously had but lost due to injury or disease and maintain that function once restored; and
- B. 15 visits per contract year (October 1-September 30) to attain or acquire a particular skill or function never learned or acquired and maintain that function once acquired.

Refer to AMPM Exhibit 300-3A for more detail regarding Medicaid only members, QMB Dual and Medicare Primary (non-QMB Dual).

Covered physical therapy treatment services include, but are not limited to:

- 1. The administration and interpretation of tests and measurements performed within the scope of practice of PT as an aid to the member's treatment,
- 2. The administration, evaluation and modification of treatment methodologies and instruction, and
- 3. The provision of instruction or education, consultation and other advisory services.

Prior Authorization

No PA is required for covered outpatient physical therapy services. Refer to AMPM Policy 310-X for limitations.

The PA for inpatient physical therapy services is included in the PA for facility services.

For Tribal ALTCS members that receive therapies in an outpatient, skilled nursing or inpatient setting, please contact the tribal case manager for PA requirements.

Speech Therapy

Speech therapy is the medically ordered provision of diagnostic and treatment services that include evaluation, diagnostic and treatment services that include evaluation, program recommendations for treatment and/or training in receptive and expressive language, voice, articulation, fluency, rehabilitation and medical issues dealing with swallowing.

A qualified Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) must be licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) or a Speech-Language Pathologist who has a temporary license from ADHS and is completing a clinical fellowship year. He/she must be under the direct supervision of an ASHA certified Speech-Language Pathologist. AHCCCS registration will be terminated at the end of two years if the fellowship is not completed. A qualified Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) must be licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). The SLPA must be identified as the servicing provider and bill for services under his/her individual NPI number. (A group ID number can be utilized to direct payment). SPLA's may only perform services under the supervision of a SLP and within their scope of service as defined by regulations.

AHCCCS covers medically necessary speech therapy services provided to all members who are receiving inpatient care at a hospital (or a nursing facility) when services are ordered by the member's PCP or attending physician for FFS members.

Speech therapy provided on an outpatient basis is covered only for members receiving EPSDT services, KidsCare and ALTCS members.

Speech therapy by qualified professionals may include the services listed below:

Articulation training	Language treatment
Auditory training	Lip reading
Non-oral language training	Cognitive training
Oral-motor development	Esophageal speech training
Swallowing training	Fluency training

Prior Authorization

The PA for inpatient speech therapy services is included in the PA for facility services.

For Tribal ALTCS members that receive therapies in a skilled nursing or inpatient setting, please contact the tribal case manager for PA requirements.

Respiratory Therapy

Respiratory therapy is an AHCCCS covered treatment service, ordered by a primary care provider for members or attending physician for Fee-For-Service (FFS) members, to restore, maintain or improve respiratory functioning.

Services include administration of pharmacological, diagnostic and therapeutic agents related to respiratory and inhalation care procedures, observing and monitoring signs and symptoms, general behavioral and physical response(s) to respiratory treatment and diagnostic testing, including a determination of whether these signs, symptoms, reactions, or response exhibits abnormal characteristics; and implementing appropriate reporting referral, and respiratory care protocols or changes in treatment based on observed abnormalities and pursuant to a prescription by a physician.

AHCCCS covers medically necessary respiratory therapy services for all members on both an inpatient and outpatient basis.

Respiratory therapists must bill with code S5180-Home health respiratory therapy, initial evaluation.

Physicians and hospitals may use CPT codes 94010 - 94799.

Refer to AMPM Chapter 310-T for further information.

Rehabilitative Services Documentation Requirements

The following written documentation must be in the member's medical records and available upon request for audit:

- Nature, date, extent of injury/illness and initial therapy evaluation,
- Treatment plan, including specific services/modalities of each therapy, and
- Expected duration and outcome of each therapy provided.

Outpatient rehabilitation services are *NOT* covered for FES members.

Residents, Interns, Students, Teaching Physicians and Dentists

A hospital may not submit a claim for professional services rendered unsupervised by a resident or intern using the hospital's provider ID, the attending/teaching physician's provider ID, or the chief of staff's provider ID number.

Patient services rendered by the attending/teaching physician solely in the capacity of teaching are excluded from reimbursement.

The attending/teaching physician may submit a claim for professional services if:

1. The attending/teaching physician is present for a key portion of the time the service being billed was performed.

For deliveries, the attending/teaching physician must be present for the requisite number of prenatal visits and the delivery in order to bill the global OB code.

If the attending/teaching physician is present only for the delivery, he/she must bill the “delivery only” code. (See obstetrical services, this chapter)

2. For surgery or dangerous/complex procedures, the attending/teaching physician is present during all critical portions of the procedure and immediately available to furnish services during the entire service or procedure.

If circumstances prevent a teaching physician from being immediately available, then he/she must arrange for another qualified surgeon to be immediately available to assist with the procedure, if needed.

3. For inpatient and outpatient evaluation and management (E/M) services, the attending/teaching physician is present during the key portion of the visit and participates in the management of the patient.

Documentation substantiating the above criteria must be available for audit purposes. All claims are subject to post-payment review and recovery per A.R.S. §36-2903.01 L.

Hospital Outpatient department setting or other ambulatory entity

Consistent with Medicare, AHCCCS permits an exception to the direct supervision rule for certain primary care residency programs. The exception rule allows specific low level E&M codes to be billed by the teaching physician for services rendered by the residents without the presence of the teaching physician. The permitted codes are limited to:

<u>New Member</u>	<u>Established Member</u>
99201	99211
99202	99212
99203	99213

Additionally, AHCCCS allows for the reimbursement of Preventative Medicine CPT codes for members under 21 years of age.

All codes under the exception for E/M services should be used with the “GE” modifier to designate the claim as a teaching physician billing exception claim.

For the above primary care exceptions to apply, the residency program must attest in writing that the following conditions are met:

1. Services must be furnished in a primary care center located in the outpatient department of a hospital or other ambulatory entity, in which the time spent by residents in patient care activities is included in determining GME payments to a teaching hospital.
2. Residents furnishing services, without the physical presence of a teaching physician, must have completed at least six months (post graduate) of a Graduate Medical Education (GME) approved residency program.
3. The teaching physician in whose name payment is sought may not supervise more than four residents at any given time and must direct the care from such proximity as to constitute immediate availability.
4. The members seen must consider the center to be their primary location for health care services. The residents must generally follow the same group of members throughout the course of their residency program.
5. The range of services furnished by the residents includes all of the following: acute and chronic care, care coordination, and comprehensive care not limited by organ system or diagnosis.
6. The types of residency programs most likely to qualify for the primary care exception rule include: family practice, general internal medicine, geriatric medicine, pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology. Certain GME programs in psychiatry may also qualify, in special situations, such as when the residency program furnishes comprehensive care for chronically mentally ill patients.

Note: This is an abbreviated summary. Refer to Medicare Part B News, Issue #192 October 22, 2001, "Supervising Physicians in Teaching Settings" for complete details.

Teaching physicians are instructed to follow the documentation guidelines as outlined by Noridian, the Medicare intermediary in Arizona, in Transmittal 1780, CR 2290, effective 11/22/2002, which describes clarification to "Supervising Physicians in Teaching Settings – Documentation."

Nursing Facility Setting

AHCCCS permits the billing of the following low level E&M nursing facility CPT codes by the teaching physician for services rendered by the residents without the presence of the teaching physician:

New Member	Established Member
99301	99311

All codes should be used with the "GE" modifier to designate the claim as a teaching physician billing exception claim.

For the nursing facility exception to apply, the residency program must attest in writing that the following conditions are met:

1. Services must be furnished in a nursing facility.
2. Residents furnishing service without the presence of a teaching physician must have completed more than twelve months (post graduate) of an approved residency program.
3. The teaching physician in whose name payment is sought may not supervise more than four residents at any given time and must be immediately available via telephone.
4. The members seen must be an identifiable group of individuals who consider the setting and residency program to be the continuing course of their health care. The residents must generally follow the same group of members through the course of their residency program.
5. The range of services furnished by the residents includes all of the following: acute and chronic care, care coordination, and comprehensive care not limited by organ system or diagnosis.
6. The types of residency programs most likely to qualify for the primary care exception rule include: family practice, general internal medicine, geriatric medicine, pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology.

Teaching physicians are instructed to follow the documentation guidelines as outlined by Noridian, the Medicare intermediary in Arizona, in Transmittal 1780, CR 2290, effective 11/22/2002, which describes clarification to “Supervising Physicians in Teaching Settings – Documentation.”

Dental Students/Dental Residents

AHCCCS permits billing for dental services provided by dental students or dental residents when the following conditions are met:

1. Services must be furnished at the dental school clinic or other dental treatment facility identified by the dental school and permitted by the Dental Practice Act.
2. All dental services must be provided under the direct supervision of a teaching dentist certified as either faculty or adjunct faculty by the dental school.
3. The teaching dentist must be an AHCCCS registered provider in order to bill for services.
4. All treatment notes written by the dental students or residents must be counter-signed by a teaching dentist.

Supplies, Materials, Injectable Drugs

AHCCCS does not reimburse providers on a fee-for-service basis for services billed using procedure code 99070 (Supplies and materials, except spectacles, provided by the physician over and above those usually included with the office visit or other services rendered).

Providers must bill the J Codes for injectable drugs and HCPCS codes for durable medical equipment and supplies.

Surgeon billing

Multiple Surgical Procedures

Multiple surgical procedures performed on the same member on the same day must be billed using modifier 51. Typically these are done during the *same session*.

Providers should list the principal procedure on the first line of the CMS 1500 claim form and list the secondary surgeries on subsequent lines with modifier 51.

- The principal procedure is reimbursed at 100 percent of the capped fee or billed charges, whichever is less.
- Each secondary surgical procedure is reimbursed at 50 percent of the capped fee or billed charges, whichever is less.

If a claim is received without modifiers to indicate secondary procedures, the AHCCCS system identifies the first procedure on the claim as the principal procedure and prices it accordingly.

For information on the use of modifier 51 and anesthesia, please see the section on Anesthesia and Modifier 51 in this chapter. All other surgical procedure are identified as secondary and priced at 50 percent of the capped fee or billed charges, whichever is less.

Claims with more than four secondary surgical procedures are subject to medical review.

Certain modifiers indicate less than comprehensive surgical care.

- 54 Surgical care only
- 55 Post-operative management
- 56 Pre-operative management

Bilateral procedures performed during the same session are identified by using modifier 50 with the CPT code for the second (bilateral) procedure.

When a procedure is repeated, use of the appropriate modifier reduces the likelihood that the claim will be denied as a duplicate:

- 76 Repeat procedure or service by same physician
- 77 Repeat procedure or service by another physician
- 78 Indicates an unplanned return to the operating/procedure room by the same physician following the initial procedure for a related procedure during the postoperative period

Multiple Surgeons/Assistants

If multiple surgeons participate in a surgery, the appropriate modifier is necessary to ensure proper payment of claims.

80	Assistant Surgeon
81	Minimum Assistant Surgeon
82	Assistant Surgeon (when qualified resident surgeon not available)
62	Two Surgeons
66	Surgical Team
AS	PA, NP, or CNS served as the assistant at surgery

If multiple providers bill for the same procedure without modifiers, all but the first claim received will be denied as duplicates.

Modifier 80 - Assistant surgeon services shall be identified by adding modifier 80 to the procedure. This modifier pertains to **physician's services** only. A physician's surgical assistant services may be identified by adding the modifier 80 to the usual procedure code. This modifier describes an assistant surgeon providing full assistance to the primary surgeon, **and is not intended for use by non-physician providers.**

Modifier 81 - Minimum assistant surgeon services shall be identified by adding modifier 81 to the procedure, and it is only submitted with surgical codes. It describes an assistant surgeon providing minimal assistance to the primary surgeon. This modifier pertains to **physician's services** only and is **not intended for use by non-physician providers.**

Modifier 82 - Assistant surgeon services, when a qualified resident surgeon is not available, shall be identified by adding modifier 82 to the procedure. This modifier applies to physician's services only. The unavailability of a qualified resident surgeon is a prerequisite for use of this modifier and the service must have been performed in a teaching facility. Documentation must include information relating to the unavailability of a qualified resident in this situation. Only teaching hospitals may submit this modifier. This modifier is not intended for use by non-physician providers.

Modifier AS - Use the modifier "AS" for assistant at surgery services, when services are provided by a Physician Assistant (PA), Nurse Practitioner (NP), or Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS). The provider must accept assignment.

- NOTE: A Medical Doctor (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) should not submit the "AS" modifier. This modifier is only valid for use by non-physician practitioners (NPP) when billing under their own provider number.

AHCCCS accepts modifiers:

- 22 – Increased procedural services; or
- 52 - Reduced services.

These modifiers do not impact reimbursement.

Fee Schedule for Physician Services - Assistant at Surgery

- Indicators for services where an assistant at surgery is allowed:
 - 0 = Payment restrictions for assistants at surgery applies to this procedure unless supporting documentation is submitted to establish medical necessity.
 - 1 = Statutory payment restriction for assistants at surgery applies to this procedure. Assistant at Surgery may not be paid.
 - 2 = Payment restrictions for assistants at surgery does not apply to this procedure. Assistant at Surgery may be paid.

When billing multiple surgical procedures, the secondary procedures should be billed with the appropriate surgical assist modifier and modifier 51.

When assistant surgeons are billing for Cesarean delivery assist, they must bill the code for delivery only with the appropriate assist modifier.

Telehealth

AHCCCS covers medically necessary, non-experimental and cost-effective services provided via telehealth. There are no geographic restrictions for telehealth; services delivered via telehealth are covered by AHCCCS in rural and metropolitan regions.

Telehealth may include healthcare services delivered via asynchronous (store and forward), remote patient monitoring, teledentistry, or telemedicine (interactive audio and video). See AMPM Policy 320-I for definitions related to telehealth services.

The following list is not comprehensive; some of the services that can be covered via **real time telehealth** include, but are not limited to:

- Behavioral Health
- Cardiology
- Dentistry
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology
- Hematology/Oncology
- Home Health
- Infectious Diseases
- Inpatient Consultations
- Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT)
- Neurology
- Obstetrics/Gynecology

Oncology/Radiation
Ophthalmology
Orthopedics
Office Visits (adult and pediatric)
Outpatient Consultations
Pain Clinic
Pathology & Radiology
Pediatrics and Pediatric Subspecialties
Pharmacy Management
Rheumatology
Surgery Follow-Up and Consultations

The following services are covered via **asynchronous telehealth (store and forward)**:

Behavioral Health
Cardiology
Dermatology
Infectious Disease
Neurology
Ophthalmology
Pathology
Radiology

Modes of Service Delivery

Service delivery via telehealth can be done via teledentistry, remote patient monitoring, telemedicine, or asynchronous (store and forward).

- **Telehealth** means services delivered via:
 - Asynchronous (store and forward);
 - Remote Patient Monitoring;
 - Teledentistry; or
 - Telemedicine (real-time interactive audio and video).
- **Asynchronous or “Store and Forward”** means the transmission of recorded health history (e.g. pre-recorded videos, digital data, or digital images, such as x-rays and photos) through a secure electronic communications system between a practitioner, usually a specialist, and a member or other practitioner, in order to evaluate the case or to render consultative and/or therapeutic services outside of a synchronous (real-time) interaction. As compared to a real-time member care, asynchronous care allows

practitioners to assess, evaluate, consult, or treat conditions using secure digital transmission services, data storage services, and software solutions.

- **Remote Patient Monitoring** is the personal health and medical data collection from a member in one location via electronic communication technologies, which is transmitted to a provider in a different location for use in providing improved chronic disease management, care, and related support. Such monitoring may be either synchronous (real-time) or asynchronous (store and forward).
- **Teledentistry** is the acquisition and transmission of all necessary subjective and objective diagnostic data through interactive audio, video or data communications by an AHCCCS registered dental provider to a dentist at a distant site for triage, dental treatment planning, and referral.
- **Telemedicine** is the practice of synchronous (real-time) health care delivery, diagnosis, consultation, and treatment and the transfer of medical data through interactive audio and video communications that occur in the physical presence of the patient.
- **Distant site** means the site at which the provider delivering the service is located at the time the service is provided via telehealth.
- **Originating site** means the location of the AHCCCS member at the time the service is being furnished via telehealth or where the asynchronous service originates. This is considered the place of service.

Telehealth Conditions and Limitations

At the time of service delivery via real time telehealth an individual who is familiar with the member's condition *may* be present with the member. This is called a telepresenter.

Telepresenter services are not billable.

All services provided via telehealth must be medically necessary, non-experimental, and cost-effective for the diagnosis or treatment of a member's medical or behavioral health condition.

Telehealth Service Information

Behavioral Health

Behavioral health telehealth services are covered for Title XIX (Medicaid) and Title XXI (KidsCare) members.

Covered behavioral health services can include, but are not limited to:

- Diagnostic consultation and evaluation,

- Psychotropic medication adjustment and monitoring,
- Individual and family counseling, and
- Case management.

For real time behavioral health services, the member's physician, case manager, behavioral health professional, or tele-presenter may be present with the member during the consultation, but their presence is not required.

Covered behavioral health services via asynchronous telehealth can include:

- Naturalistic Observation Diagnostic Assessment (NODA).

Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)

Non-emergency medical transportation is covered to transport a Title XIX or Title XXI member to and from the originating site, in order to receive an AHCCCS covered medically necessary consultation or treatment.

Office Setting

Prolonged preventive services, beyond the typical service of the primary procedure, that require direct patient contact and occur in either the office or another outpatient setting are covered under telehealth. The following codes are examples:

- **G0513** Prolonged preventive service(s) (beyond the typical service of the primary procedure) in the office or other outpatient setting requiring direct patient contact beyond the usual service; first 30 minutes (listed separately in addition to code for preventive service).
- **G0514** Prolonged preventive service(s) (beyond the typical service of the primary procedure) in the office or other outpatient setting requiring direct patient contact beyond the usual service; each additional 30 minutes (listed separately in addition to code for preventive service).

Telehealth Billing Information

Claim Form

Services shall be billed on a CMS 1500 claim form.

Providers

Telehealth, including Teledentistry services, may be provided by AHCCCS registered providers, within their scope of practice.

Place of Service (POS) **NOTE: To be used when billing on the CMS 1500 Claim form at the Capped FFS Rate.

The Place of Service (POS) listed on the CMS 1500 claim form shall be the **originating site** (where the AHCCCS member is located or where the asynchronous service originates).

- i.e. A member is located at a Rural Health Clinic (originating site) and the individual provider (who will submit the claim) is located in their office (distant site). The POS listed on the claim (submitted by the individual provider) will be POS 72 (Rural Health Clinic).

NOTE: There is no POS field on the UB-04 Claim Form.

Codes

For a complete code set of services, along with their eligible place of service and modifiers, that can be billed as telehealth please visit the AHCCCS Medical Coding Resources web page at:

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/MedicalCodingResources.html>

Modifiers

GT - Real time (interactive audio and video) telehealth services must be billed using the “GT” modifier to designate the service being billed as a telehealth service.

GQ - Asynchronous (“store and forward”) telehealth services must be billed using the “GQ” modifier to designate the service being billed as a telehealth service.

For a full list of available POS and appropriate modifiers, refer to the AHCCCS Medical Coding Resources webpage at:

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/MedicalCodingResources.html>

Medicare Dual Claims

For Medicare Dual members, claims may be submitted with the POS listed as 02 (Telemedicine) to comply with Medicare guidelines. The POS 02 (Telemedicine) will designate the service being provided as a telehealth service.

- i.e. A member is located at Rural Health Clinic (originating site) and the individual provider (who will submit the claim) is located in their office (distant site). The POS listed on the claim (submitted by the individual provider) will not be POS 72 (Rural Health Clinic), but will instead be listed as POS 02.

NOTE: Medicare's telehealth coverage, conditions and limitations may vary from Medicaid's. However, for members with Medicare as the primary payer a claim must be submitted to Medicare first. The EOB would then be submitted to AHCCCS along with the claim. For additional information about the submission of claims for Medicare Dual members, including crossover claims, please refer to [Chapter 9, Medicare/Other Insurance Liability, of the Fee-for-Service Provider Billing Manual](#).

Additional Information

For additional information on telehealth services, please refer to the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual, AMPM 320-I, Telehealth Services.

Unlisted or Unspecified Services

Procedure codes for unspecified or unlisted procedures (identified by CPT codes ending in "99") should only be billed in situations where no other code adequately describes the service performed.

Providers who bill procedure codes for unspecified or unlisted procedures must describe the service rendered and identify the service in the procedure or operative report.

Claims with such procedure codes are subject to Medical Review.

Ventilator Management

Providers should not bill AHCCCS for any E/M service when submitting claims for global ventilator management services.

CPT Codes 94002 (Ventilation assist and management, first day); 94003 (Ventilation assist and management, subsequent days) and 94004 (Ventilation assist and management, nursing facility, per day) are global procedure codes.

Claims with an E/M code in addition to a ventilator management code are subject to denial during Medical Review.

Vision

AHCCCS covers eye and optometric services provided by qualified eye/optometry professionals within certain limits based on member age and eligibility.

Routine and medically necessary vision services, including examinations and the provision of prescriptive lenses are covered for members under the Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment Program and the KidsCare Program. Vision exams provided in a PCP's office during an EPSDT visit are not a separately billable service. Refer to AMPM 430, EPSDT Services, and the EPSDT Periodicity Schedule found in AMPM Exhibit 430-1

for detailed information regarding coverage of eye exams and prescriptive lenses for children.

For members who are 21 years of age or older, examination and treatment of medical conditions of the eye are covered.

Routine eye examinations for prescriptive lenses and the provision of prescriptive lenses are **not** covered for adults. The provision of prescriptive lenses is considered medically necessary for adults **only** when used as the sole prosthetic device following cataract surgery. Refer to AMPM 310-G, Eye Examination/Optomety Services, for detailed information regarding coverage of eye exams and prescriptive lenses for adults.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Description of Change(s)	Page(s)
7/12/21	Reporting School Site Information for Services Performed in Schools section added.	33-34
2/17/21	Ordering Provider section updated with a clarification (not a rule change): Effective 1/1/2012 for FFS the following services require the submission of an ordering provider: "V"- codes (including, but not limited to codes pertaining to vision and hearing.)	31
7/1/2020	Naturopathic section updated	27-28
10/1/2019	Entire telehealth section comprehensively revised. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telehealth definition updated. • Services covered by telehealth updated with additional examples. • Modes of Service Delivery section updated and all definitions (asynchronous, teledentistry, telemedicine, real time, distant site, originating site, and remote patient monitoring) revised. • Telehealth conditions and limitations section revised. • Clarification added to telepresenter information. • Behavioral Health & telehealth section added. • NEMT & telehealth section added. • Office setting section added, along with new codes. • Telehealth billing information section added and includes information on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Claim Form to be used, ○ Providers who can bill telehealth services, ○ POS, 	46-51 46 46-47 47-48 48 48 49 49 49 50 50 50 50

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Modifiers (GT/GQ), Medicare dual claims and telehealth section added. 	50 50-51
8/23/2019	Assistant Surgeon modifier information (AS, 80, 81 and 82) updated. Removal of requirement to bill AS with 80, 81 or 82 to be effective 9/1/19. MSIC section added	45-46 22-27
4/12/2019	Naturopathic Physician section added.	22-23
11/1/2018	The following information was added to the Teaching Physicians section: “If circumstances prevent a teaching physician from being immediately available, then he/she must arrange for another qualified surgeon to be immediately available to assist with the procedure, if needed.”	35
4/5/2018	Peripheral Nerve Blocks for Postoperative Pain Management on the Date of Surgery subsection added	6
2/09/2018	Social Determinants of Health added	3-4
1/05/2018	Vision Updates	41-42
12/29/2017	Family Planning Updates Obstetrical Services for Members with Hospital Presumptive Eligibility (HPE) Section Added Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Section Added Surgeon Billing Updates (Including Modifiers 50, 51, 80, 81, 82 and AS)	11-13 24 25 2; 36-38
10/01/2017	Dental Podiatry Occupational Therapy Formatting Updates	6-8 13-17 25-27 All
10/05/2016	Updated section Pregnancy Terminations to conform to AMPM language Anesthesia modifier AD updated Added reference for ALTCS Dental Restoration Updated section Foot and Ankle Care Correction to section Physical Therapy service limits to conform to AMPM Removed PA section for Rehabilitation Therapies Updated section Telemedicine Conditions and Limitations	4 6 7 16 29-31 32 39



**FEE-FOR-SERVICE PROVIDER
BILLING MANUAL**

**CHAPTER 10 INDIVIDUAL PRACTITIONER
SERVICES**

03/30/2016	Updated NCCI associated modifier section with link to CMS for quarterly list updates	3
12/21/2015	Correction to Telemedicine. Conditions and limitations: Remove “must” and replaced with “may” to read “...may be present with the member.” to conform to AMPM language	39
12/21/2015	Add Revision History to chapter	40