



**Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Health Plan Advisory No. 16-01**

DATE: August 10, 2016
TO: Nebraska Heritage Health Plans
FROM: Calder Lynch, Director
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care
BY: Heather Leschinsky
RE: FQHC Multiple Encounter Billing

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CL", is written over the "FROM:" line of the header.

This Health Plan Advisory is being issued to provide instructions to Heritage Health Plans on the processes required for reimbursement of multiple encounters on the same day for services provided by Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

Nebraska Medicaid currently reimburses FQHCs under one of the following all-inclusive encounter rates:

1. The Alternative Payment Methodology (APM); or
2. The Prospective Payment System (PPS).

Medicaid payments are made at the APM or PPS rate when billed with the procedure code T1015. Encounters with more than one health professional and multiple encounters with the same health professional which take place on the same day and at a single location constitute a single visit.

EXCEPTIONS:

Reimbursement will be made for multiple visits on the same day under the following circumstances:

- The patient, *subsequent to the first visit*, suffers an illness or injury that requires additional diagnosis or treatment which are different from the first visit, on the same day. For example, a patient visits their practitioner in the morning for an ear infection and subsequently has fall and returns to the FQHC. The second visit will qualify as an additional encounter; **or**
- The patient has medical visit and a behavioral health visit on the same day. The medical encounter constitutes one visit and the behavioral health visit constitutes an additional encounter.

If you have any questions about this advisory, please contact Flora Coan at flora.coan@nebraska.gov. Health plans should also copy their contract manager.