

PROVIDER BULLETIN No. 13-68

DATE: October 8, 2013

TO: All Nebraska Medicaid Providers

FROM: Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director 
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Lea Clauss
Program Integrity

RE: New National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Edits Regarding Evaluation-and-Management Services on the Day of Surgery, Effective October 2013

Please share this information with professional, clinical, administrative, and billing staff.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is implementing new procedure-to-procedure (PTP) edits that pair evaluation-and-management (E&M) CPT codes in the code ranges (99201 – 99499 and 92002 – 92014) with all surgical procedure codes. **CMS has determined that E&M procedure codes billed on the same day as a surgical procedure are not separately payable unless appended with the appropriate modifier.** To minimize denials of payment for claims, providers should bill correctly, using modifiers 24, 25 and 57, when appropriate and supported by documentation.

These edits will apply to claims received on or after October 1, 2013.

The coding policies were developed based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) manual, national and local policies and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practices, and a review of current coding practices. CMS reviews and updates these policies quarterly.

CMS has reviewed these coding policies and determined that all of the NCCI coding methodologies are appropriate for Medicaid claims. The policies, Medicaid specific NCCI manuals, and additional information can be found at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services website <http://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Data-and-Systems/National-Correct-Coding-Initiative.html>

Information about the National Correct Coding Initiative is available on the Department's website at http://dhhs.ne.gov/medicaid/Pages/med_ncci.aspx

If you have questions about NCCI, NCCI related denials, adjustments or appeals, please contact Lea Clauss via e-mail at lea.clauss@nebraska.gov or via phone at (402)471-1019.