

PROVIDER BULLETIN

BT201009

MARCH 23, 2010

To: All Providers

Subject: Nonemergency Services Rendered in Emergency

Room Settings

Overview

Effective July 1, 2009, the Indiana Health Coverage Programs (IHCP) adopted the policy of no longer reimbursing hospitals for nonemergency services rendered in emergency room settings. Hospitals are reimbursed for screenings that are necessary to determine if the member has an emergency condition. Revenue code 451 - EMTALA - Emergency Medical Screening Service will be reimbursed for the nonemergent screening, and effective March 31, 2010, system modifications will be implemented to deny all ancillary charges submitted with revenue code 451 with EOB code 4180 - Ancillary services are not payable when a 451 revenue code is billed on an outpatient or outpatient crossover claim.

The IHCP continues to cover services for a member presenting to an emergency room with an emergency medical condition, as determined by the screening physician. Per $42\ U.S.C.\ \S\ 1395dd(e)(1)$, an emergency medical condition is a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in the following:

- Placing the health of the individual (or with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy
- Serious impairment to bodily functions
- Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part

When the screening does not meet the definition of an emergency visit under the layperson review criteria utilizing this definition, the provider should bill only for the screening service (revenue code 451).

Contact Information

If you have questions about this bulletin, please contact Customer Assistance at (317) 655-3240 in the Indianapolis local area or toll-free at 1-800-577-1278.

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