



Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield (Highmark BCBS) partners with Wellpoint companies to administer certain services to Medicaid Managed Care (MMC), Health and Recovery Plan (HARP), Child Health Plus (CHPlus), and Essential Plan members. Please note, this information is specific to the MMC, HARP, CHPlus, and Essential Plan programs only.

Reimbursement Policy	
Subject: DRG Newborn Inpatient Stays	
Policy Number: G-17001	Policy Section: Facilities
Last Approval Date: 11/17/2023	Effective Date: 08/12/2020

**** Visit our provider website for the most current version of the reimbursement policies. If you are using a printed version of this policy, please verify the information by going to providerpublic.mybcbswny.com. ****

Disclaimer

These reimbursement policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claims submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement if Highmark BCBS covered the service for the member's benefit plan. The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member's benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member's state of residence.

You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with Current Procedure Terminology® (CPT) codes, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes, and/or revenue codes. These codes denote the services and/or procedures performed and, when billed, must be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our reimbursement policies apply to both participating and non-participating professional providers and facilities.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Highmark BCBS may:

- Reject or deny the claim.
- Recover and/or recoup claim payment.
- Adjust the reimbursement to reflect the appropriate services and/or procedures performed.

These reimbursement policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal, or Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) contracts and/or requirements. Highmark BCBS strives to minimize delays in policy implementation. If there is a delay, we reserve the right to recoup and/or recover claims payment to the effective date in accordance with the

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policy. We reserve the right to review and revise these policies when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to the website.

Policy

Highmark BCBS allows reimbursement for newborn inpatient unless provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise.

When the reimbursement is based on the Diagnosis Related Group (DRG), reimbursement for newborn inpatient stays should be billed with the appropriate revenue code to match the corresponding DRG code.

If there is no Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) revenue code listed on the claim, the claim will not group to a sick newborn DRG.

Inpatient newborn stay reimbursement is based on the following rules:

- Normal newborn DRG: normal newborn DRG codes billed with the appropriate well baby revenue codes.
- Sick baby DRG: sick baby DRG codes billed with the appropriate sick baby revenue codes.

Note: Current authorization guidelines for normal and sick baby inpatient stays will be applied.

Related Coding

Standard correct coding applies

Policy History

11/17/2023	Review approved: policy template updated
08/12/2020	Review approved and effective
12/28/2017	Initial approval 12/28/2017 and effective 11/01/2018

References and Research Materials

This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:

- National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC)
- State contract
- State Medicaid

Definitions

General Reimbursement Policy Definitions

Related Policies and Materials

Claims Requiring Additional Documentation

Claims Submissions - Required Information for Facilities