



CMS Coverage

Reimbursement Policy ID: RPC.0126.5400

Recent review date: 11/2025

Next review date: 07/2027

AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia reimbursement policies and their resulting edits are based on guidelines from established industry sources, such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the American Medical Association (AMA), state and federal regulatory agencies, and medical specialty professional societies. Reimbursement policies are intended as a general reference and do not constitute a contract or other guarantee of payment. AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying its policies to services provided in a particular case and may modify its policies at any time.

In making claim payment determinations, the health plan also uses coding terminology and methodologies based on accepted industry standards, including Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®); the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS); and the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM), and other relevant sources. Other factors that may affect payment include medical record documentation, legislative or regulatory mandates, a provider's contract, a member's eligibility in receiving covered services, submission of clean claims, other health plan policies, and other relevant factors. These factors may supplement, modify, or in some cases supersede reimbursement policies.

This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on a CMS-1500 form or its electronic equivalent, or when billed on a UB-04 form or its electronic equivalent.

To the extent that any procedure and/or diagnosis codes are specified in this policy, such inclusion is provided for reference purposes only, may not be all inclusive, and is not intended to serve as billing instructions. Listing of a code in this policy does not imply that the service described by the code is a covered or non-covered health service. Benefit coverage for health services is determined by federal, state, or contractual requirements and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. The inclusion of a code does not imply any right to reimbursement or guarantee claim payment. Other Policies and Guidelines may apply.

Policy Overview

This policy addresses the Center for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) coverage guidelines for services provided by AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia.

Exceptions

N/A

Reimbursement Guidelines

In the absence of state-specific guidance, AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia will default to CMS guidelines, including, but not limited to:

- The National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI)
- National Coverage Determinations (NCDs)
- Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)
- National Physician Fee Schedule (NPFS)
- Medicare Claims Processing Manual

For example, apheresis coverage. If AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia and District of Columbia Medicaid plans do not address coverage for reimbursement, then CMS coverage guidelines may apply.

Definitions

N/A

Edit Sources

- I. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and associated publications and services.
- II. International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM).
- III. Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS).
- IV. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
- V. The National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI).
- VI. Applicable District of Columbia Medicaid Fee Schedule(s).

Attachments

N/A

Associated Policies

N/A

Policy History

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| 11/2025 | Reimbursement Policy Committee Approval |
| 06/2025 | Minor updates to formatting and syntax |
| 04/2025 | Revised preamble |
| 04/2024 | Revised preamble |
| 08/2023 | Removal of policy implemented by AmeriHealth Caritas District of Columbia from Policy History section |
| 01/2023 | Template Revised <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revised preamble• Removal of Applicable Claim Types table• Coding section renamed to Reimbursement Guidelines• Added Associated Policies section |