Reimbursement Policy
Subject: **Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant Services**

Policy Number: **G-20002**	Policy Section: **Administration**
Last Approval Date: **04/11/2022**	Effective Date: **04/11/2022**

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

Disclaimer

These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claims submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement if the service is covered by a member's Healthy Blue 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 CPT® codes, HCPCS codes, and/or revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed codes are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to both participating and nonparticipating providers and facilities.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Healthy Blue 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These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider or state contracts, or state, federal, or CMS requirements. System logic or set up may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, Healthy Blue strives to minimize these variations.

Healthy Blue reserves the right to review and revise its policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to our provider website.

Policy

Healthy Blue allows reimbursement for services provided by nurse practitioner (NP) and physician assistant (PA) providers. Unless provider, state, federal, or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise, reimbursement is based upon all of the following:

- The service is considered a physicians' service:
  - Excluding fees for the following:
    - Drugs
    - Durable medical equipment
    - Laboratory services
    - Preventive services and screening tests
    - Radiology services
- The service is within the scope of practice.
- A payment equivalent to physicians' contracted rate for NP and PA.

Services furnished by the NP should be submitted with their own NPI.

PA services must be billed by the supervising physician using modifier AR.

Related Coding

Standard correct coding applies

Policy History

04/11/2022	Review approved: added language for clarity in policy body under **Physician Services**: policy template updated
01/01/2021	Initial policy approved and effective

References and Research Materials

This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:
- CMS
- State Medicaid
- State contracts

Definitions

Modifier AR	Physician provider services in physician scarcity area/physician assistant services
General Reimbursement Policy Definitions	

Related Policies and Materials

Assistant at Surgery (Modifier 80, 81, 82, AS)
Modifier Usage
Scope of Practice