

Reminder: Providers Must Use the Most Appropriate Diagnosis Codes for the Client on Claims

Information posted June 29, 2018

Note: *Texas Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) must provide all medically necessary, Medicaid-covered services to eligible clients. Administrative procedures such as prior authorization, pre-certification, referrals, and claims/encounter data filing may differ from traditional Medicaid (fee-for-service) and from MCO to MCO. Providers should contact the client's specific MCO for details.*

This is a reminder that all diagnosis codes submitted on a claim must be appropriate for the age and gender of the client as identified in the *International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM)* description of the diagnosis code.

Claims that are denied because one or more of the diagnosis codes submitted on the claim are not appropriate for the age or gender of the client may be appealed with the correct diagnosis code or documentation of medical necessity to justify the use of the diagnosis code.

The ordering physician is responsible for submitting the most appropriate diagnosis code to the durable medical equipment (DME) provider for DME services.

Breastfeeding support services and postpartum depression screening are not limited to specific diagnosis codes; however, providers must use the most appropriate diagnosis code for the client's age and gender.

For example: A claim for a breast pump submitted with the mother's PCN will deny if billed with a diagnosis code only appropriate for an infant. A postpartum depression screening claim billed with the infant's PCN will deny if billed with a diagnosis code only appropriate for an adult female.

Important: To avoid fraudulent billing, providers must submit the ICD codes that are most appropriate for the services provided.

Providers may refer to the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM)* manual for additional information about these diagnosis codes.

For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 1-800-925-9126 or the TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at 1-800-568-2413.