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2021 E/M Coding, Billing and Auditing Toolkit

MEMBER TOOL - DECEMBER 9, 2020

RVUS

CODING & DOCUMENTATION

PROVIDER COMPENSATION

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MGMA Staff Members

Getting paid for some of the most routine outpatient office visits becomes a new challenge on Jan. 1, 2021, when guideline and code descriptor changes for E/M services — previously announced by the American Medical Association (AMA) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) — take effect.

These member tools provide a comprehensive understanding of the 2021 E/M coding changes, chart audits and elements of medical decision making (MDM), as well as the Medicare 2021 Physician Fee Schedule.

- **"Outpatient Office Visit E/M Codes: Preparing for 2021"** — This on-demand webinar outlines changes to office visit E/M codes slated for implementation Jan. 1, 2021. The presentation explores guidance developed by the AMA's CPT Editorial Panel, representing the first documentation and coding overhaul in more than 25 years. (**Editor's note:** *This webinar was held Nov. 17, 2020. The 2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule final rule subsequently came out, so please note there are changes for the conversion rate and G codes.*)
- **2021 Medical Decision Making for Outpatient E/M Codes** — This member tool (PDF) explores the elements for leveling outpatient E/M codes Jan. 1, 2021, and thereafter, as well as time elements for each code; details on the number and complexity of problems addressed to establish MDM; the three categories addressing amount and/or complexity of data to review and analyze; and risk levels for complications and/or morbidity or mortality of patient management.

- **2021 Medicare Physician E/M Fee Schedule Analyzer Tool (Non-facility)** — This spreadsheet tool allows physician practice leaders to analyze E/M reimbursements for 2020 compared to the final 2021 rate for non-facility charges.
- **2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) Tool (Non-facility)** — The 2021 Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) tool (non-facility version) is designed to output the Medicare fee schedule based on data from the 2021 final rule.
- **2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) Tool (Facility)** — The 2021 Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) tool (facility version) is designed to output the Medicare fee schedule based on data from the 2021 final rule.
- **2021 E/M Outpatient Office Visit Codes FAQ** — The biggest questions about the 2021 E/M outpatient office visit code changes are answered by MGMA coding experts.
- **2021 E/M Audit Worksheet** — This PDF resource includes CPT definitions for elements of MDM for outpatient office visits, as well as guidance on number and complexity of problems addressed; amount and/or complexity of data to review and analyze; risk of complications and/or morbidity or mortality of patient management; MDM risk scores for new or established patient E/M levels; time-based coding; and prolonged services for Medicare and commercial payers.
- **2021 E/M Quick Reference** — This downloadable PDF offers a quick reference for new rules for outpatient E/M code MDM, prolonged services and time-based coding elements.



FREE REPORT

OPTIMIZING ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS

Optimizing Advanced Practice Providers in Healthcare, an MGMA Research & Analysis report, focuses on the projected physician shortage and the vital role of APPs, including: Guidelines and regulations for using APPs; expert advice for compensation; specialty-specific insights and tips; and details on state-by-state rules.

19 pages. PDF. Free to all.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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