

Bulletin



December 21, 2009

Hot and cold pack exclusion

Effective for claims received on and after April 1, 2010, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus will no longer reimburse providers for the physical medicine hot and cold pack modality, CPT code 97010.

Blue Cross reviewed the utilization of the hot and cold pack therapy code and determined that this modality is used in conjunction with and/or to enhance other services performed. Thus, 97010 will be denied as provider liability, whether billed alone or with another service.

Code description

97010 Application of a modality to 1 or more areas; hot or cold packs.

Coding requirements reminder

All coding and reimbursement is subject to changes, updates or other requirements of coding rules and guidelines. All codes are subject to federal HIPAA rules, and in the case of medical code sets (for example, HCPCS, CPT, ICD-9-CM), only valid codes for the date of service may be submitted or accepted.

Questions?

If you have questions, please contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or toll free at **1-800-262-0820**.

HCPCS stands for Health Care Procedure Coding System

CPT® (Current Procedural Terminology) is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association

ICD-9-CM stands for International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification