

Quick Points



February 3, 2010

Hospice billing for Medicare products

Products affected

- SecureBlue (except for members who do not have Medicare coverage)
- CareBlue (except for members who do not have Medicare coverage)

Please see the table at the end of this Quick Points for a complete list of SecureBlue and CareBlue groups this information applies to.

Hospice billing

Members who have elected Medicare hospice benefits can be identified by their group number for SecureBlue and CareBlue. The hospice benefit for all Medicare plans administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) is maintained through the Regional Home Health and Hospice Medicare Intermediary (RHHI).

SecureBlue/CareBlue specific processing

All claims submitted to Blue Cross with provider specialty B5 (inpatient and home hospice) will be denied indicating that all claims should be sent to RHHI for consideration.

Claims for all other provider specialties for services related to the terminal illness should be submitted to Medicare for primary consideration. If submitted to Blue Cross, these claims will be denied indicating that all claims related to the terminal illness should be submitted to Medicare for primary consideration. If the provider needs to bill for a service never covered by Medicare, (for example, special or common carrier transportation or services with HCPCS codes that begin with alpha characters H, S or T) these services can be billed to Blue Cross directly.

Claims submitted with a GV modifier indicate services were provided by a provider not reimbursed through the hospice provider. These claims need to be submitted to Medicare for primary consideration. If the claim is submitted to Blue Cross without Medicare payment information, the claim will be denied requesting this information. If Medicare payment information is submitted on the claim, then the SecureBlue/CareBlue products will consider payment for the services as the secondary payer.

Institutional room and board for SecureBlue or CareBlue nursing home members is paid by the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS). Nursing facility room and board claims should be submitted to DHS for payment. Claims received by Blue Cross for these services will be denied indicating that claims for these services should be sent to DHS for consideration.

Claims not related to terminal diagnosis

Claims that are not related to a terminal diagnosis may be denied by RHHI. These claims should then be submitted with a copy of the Medicare denial to Blue Cross for processing. These services can often be identified by procedure code modifier GW on professional claims (837-P), or condition code 07 on institutional claims (837-I).

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Notification of hospice election

Blue Cross requires hospice providers to notify Blue Cross when a member has elected the hospice benefit.

For SecureBlue and CareBlue members, the hospice agency should communicate the hospice election to Senior Public programs unit at **(651) 662-5540** or toll free at **1-800-711-9868**.

SecureBlue Medicare hospice group numbers

All claims for members with these group numbers that are submitted to Blue Cross with provider specialty B5 (inpatient and home hospice) and all claims for services related to the terminal illness will be denied indicating that all claims should be sent to RHHI.

PP245-ZA	PP245-ZC	PP245-ZE	PP245-ZF	PP245-ZM	PP245-ZR	PP245-ZS	PP245-ZV	PP245-ZW
PP260-ZA	PP260-ZC	PP260-ZE	PP260-ZF	PP260-ZM	PP260-ZR	PP260-ZS	PP260-ZV	PP260-ZW
PP261-ZA	PP261-ZC	PP261-ZE	PP261-ZF	PP261-ZM	PP261-ZR	PP261-ZS	PP261-ZV	PP261-ZW
PP262-ZA	PP262-ZC	PP262-ZE	PP262-ZF	PP262-ZM	PP262-ZR	PP262-ZS	PP262-ZV	PP262-ZW
PP280-ZA	PP280-ZC	PP280-ZE	PP280-ZF	PP280-ZM	PP280-ZR	PP280-ZS	PP280-ZV	PP280-ZW
PP281-ZA	PP281-ZC	PP281-ZE	PP281-ZF	PP281-ZM	PP281-ZR	PP281-ZS	PP281-ZV	PP281-ZW
PP282-ZA	PP282-ZC	PP282-ZE	PP282-ZF	PP282-ZM	PP282-ZR	PP282-ZS	PP282-ZV	PP282-ZW

CareBlue Medicare hospice group numbers

All claims for members with these group numbers that are submitted to Blue Cross with provider specialty B5 (inpatient and home hospice) and all claims for services related to the terminal illness will be denied indicating that all claims should be sent to RHHI.

PP301-ZA	PP301-ZM	PP301-ZP	PP301-ZQ
PP303-ZA	PP303-ZM	PP303-ZP	PP303-ZQ
PP305-ZA	PP305-ZM	PP305-ZP	PP305-ZQ
PP313-ZA	PP313-ZM	PP313-ZP	PP313-ZQ

Questions?

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