

PROVIDER BULLETIN

PROVIDER INFORMATION



June 12, 2017

Revised Reimbursement Policy for Anesthesia Services: Anesthesia

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Blue Plus (Blue Cross) has revised the Anesthesia Services Reimbursement Policy. The effective date of this policy is August 7, 2017, and the policy will be available under the provider section of the Blue Cross website at providers.bluecrossmn.com.

The revised reimbursement policy for Anesthesia Services now includes information on the following topics:

- Neuraxial or peripheral nerve blocks for pediatric members (up through age 21). Nerve blocks are allowed in conjunction with the surgical procedure performed and submitted with a -59 modifier.
- Neuraxial or peripheral nerve block anesthesia for acute post-operative pain management in members over 21 years of age who undergo certain surgical procedures that include the following:
 - esophageal procedures, gastric procedures, pancreatic procedures, hepatic procedures, abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) repair, open colectomy (full or partial), open small bowel (SB) resection, open thoracotomy, pectus repair, thymectomy, thoracic aortic aneurysm repair, total hip replacement (THR) and shoulder procedures.

Coding requirements reminder

All coding and reimbursements are 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 (e.g. **HCPCS, CPT, ICD**), 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 **1-800-262-0820**.

HCPCS stands for Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System

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