

## MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

### Unlisted Procedure Code

Active

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**Policy Number:** General Coding - 005  
**Policy Title:** Unlisted Procedure Code  
**Section:** General Coding  
**Effective Date:** 08/01/23

#### Description

This policy addresses reimbursement for services that are submitted with an unlisted HCPCS (Level I, a.k.a., CPT, and Level II, alpha-numeric codes) code.

#### Policy Statement

Some services or procedures provided by practitioners might not have a specific HCPCS that adequately describes the procedure or service. When submitting claims for these services or procedures, unlisted codes may be used.

Unlisted codes are identified by one of the following terms in the HCPCS description:

- Not Otherwise Classified
- Unlisted
- Not Listed
- Unspecified
- Unclassified
- Not Otherwise Specified
- Non-Specified
- Not Elsewhere Specified
- NEC
- NOS

Unlisted codes should only be used if no code exists to describe the procedure, service, or supply. The most appropriate and specific unlisted code that reflects the procedure, service or supply rendered should be reported. For example, an oral drug is given (under the medical benefit) that does not have a specific code. Code J8499 (Prescription drug, oral, non-chemotherapeutic, NOS) would be more appropriate than submitting J3490 (unclassified drug).

When reporting an unlisted code, a complete narrative description of or identification of the service or item must be entered in the NTE segment of the electronic claim:

- 837P: Loop 2400, Segment NTE
- 837I: Loop 2300, Segment NTE

In addition, NOC drug codes require a valid NDC number.

If not included, Blue Cross will deny the claim and request the missing information.

Because unlisted and unspecified procedure codes do not describe a specific procedure or service, it is necessary to submit supporting documentation with the claim or upon request.

Pertinent information should include:

- A clear description of the nature, extent, and need for the procedure or service.
- Whether the procedure was performed independent from other services provided, or if it was performed at the same surgical site or through the same surgical opening.
- Any extenuating circumstances which may have complicated the service or procedure.
- Time, effort, and equipment necessary to provide the service.
- The number of times the service was provided.

When submitting supporting documentation, identify the portion of the report (e.g. underline or highlight the entry) that identifies the test or procedure associated with the unlisted procedure code. Required information must be legible and clearly marked. Refer to the table below for documentation requirements:

<b>Procedure Code Category</b>	<b>Documentation Requirements</b>
Surgical Procedures	Operative or procedure report
Radiology/imaging procedures	Imaging Report
Laboratory and pathology procedures	Laboratory or pathology report
Medical Procedures and Behavioral Health Services	Office notes, chart notes and reports
Unclassified drug codes	Provide the National Drug Code (NDC) number or full description/name and strength of the drug and dosage
Unlisted DME HCPCS codes	Provide narrative on the claim, Manufacturers Suggested Retail Price (MSRP).

Once the additional information is received, the claim will be reviewed. An unlisted procedure code will be denied if it is determined that an appropriate procedure or service code that more closely approximates the service is available.

Unlisted codes for DME, orthotics and prosthetics require the appropriate modifier to differentiate rental, purchase and repair or replacement of DME. Modifiers, otherwise, should not be appended to unlisted procedure codes, and may be denied if submitted.

No additional reimbursement is provided for special techniques/equipment submitted with an unlisted procedure code.

Reimbursement for unlisted codes will be based on

- 35% of provider's regular billed charge
- Invoice cost (reimburse drug/supply cost only)
- Allowance of similar code (procedure/item)

- Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) rates or Not Otherwise Classified (NOC) pricing

### **Compounded drugs**

Multiple service lines are necessary to report a compound drug. One NDC is allowed per line. Report the HCPCS code (J7999) as a separate line for each associated NDC, or full description/name and strength of the drug and dosage.

For injections/infusions that involve multiple NDCs, bill the initial line with the HCPCS code, units and NDC with modifier KP (first drug of a multiple drug unit dose formulation). Bill the second, and any subsequent line item(s) of the same HCPCS code with modifier KQ (second or subsequent drug of a multiple drug unit dose formulation). If billing the same HCPCS code on more than two lines, the KQ modifier and an additional modifier are needed on each subsequent line.

### **Documentation Submission**

Documentation must identify and describe the services performed. If a denial is appealed, this documentation must be submitted with the appeal.

### **Coverage**

Eligible services will be subject to the subscriber benefits, applicable fee schedule amount and any coding edits.

### **The following applies to all claim submissions.**

All coding and reimbursement is subject to all terms of the Provider Service Agreement and 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 (HCPCS, CPT, ICD), only codes valid for the date of service may be submitted or accepted. Reimbursement for all Health Services is subject to current Blue Cross Medical Policy criteria, policies found in the Provider Policy and Procedure Manual sections, Reimbursement Policies and all other provisions of the Provider Service Agreement (Agreement).

In the event that any new codes are developed during the course of Provider's Agreement, such new codes will be paid according to the standard or applicable Blue Cross fee schedule until such time as a new agreement is reached and supersedes the Provider's current Agreement.

All payment for codes based on Relative Value Units (RVU) will include a site of service differential and will be calculated using the appropriate facility or non-facility components, based on the site of service identified, as submitted by Provider.

### **Coding**

The following codes are included below for informational purposes only and are subject to change without notice. Inclusion or exclusion of a code does not constitute or imply subscriber coverage or provider reimbursement.

**CPT/HCPCS Modifier:** N/A  
**ICD-10 Diagnosis:** N/A  
**ICD-10 Procedure:** N/A  
**CPT/HCPCS:** Refer to [Appendix](#)



**Revenue Codes:** N/A

**Resources**

Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)
Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)

**Policy History**

12/02/2014	Initial Committee Approval
01/27/2020	Annual Policy Review
01/04/2021	Annual Policy Review
06/29/2021	Annual Policy Review
12/28/2021	Revised
03/22/2022	Revised
04/26/2022	Code Update: added A4100
09/27/2022	Revised: added Compound Drug section
07/25/2023	Annual Policy Review

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## Appendix

15999	17999	19499	20999	21089	21299	21499	21899	22899	22999
23929	24999	25999	26989	27299	27599	27899	28899	29799	29999
30999	31299	31599	31899	32999	33999	36299	37501	37799	38129
38589	38999	39499	39599	40799	40899	41599	41899	42299	42699
42999	43289	43499	43659	43999	44238	44799	44899	44979	45399
45499	45999	46999	47379	47399	47579	47999	48999	49329	49659
49999	50549	50949	51999	53899	54699	55559	55899	58578	58579
58679	58999	59897	59898	59899	60659	60699	64722	64999	66999
67299	67399	67599	67999	68399	68899	69399	69799	69949	69979
76496	76497	76498	76499	76999	77299	77399	77499	77799	78099
78199	78299	78399	78499	78599	78699	78799	78999	79999	80323
80338	80339	80340	80341	80342	80343	80344	80375	80376	80377
81099	81479	81599	83520	84591	84999	85999	86317	86486	86849
86999	87299	87449	87797	87798	87799	87899	87999	88099	88199
88299	88399	88749	89240	89398	90399	90749	90899	90999	91299
92499	92700	93799	93998	94799	95199	95999	96379	96549	96999
97039	97139	97799	99199	99429	99499	99600	0101T	1999	A0999
A4100	A4335	A4421	A4641	A4649	A4913	A5507	A6261	A6262	A6512
A6549	A9152	A9153	A9279	A9280	A9579	A9597	A9598	A9698	A9699
A9900	A9999	B9998	B9999	C1889	C2698	C2699	C9399	D0999	D1999
D2999	D3999	D4999	D5899	D5999	D6199	D6999	D7899	D7999	D8999
D9999	E0446	E0625	E0676	E0769	E0770	E1229	E1239	E1399	E1699
E2599	G0235	G9012	G9055	G9062	G9067	G9070	G9083	G9089	G9095
G9099	G9104	G9108	G9112	G9117	G9130	G9131	G9138	G9139	G9282
G9283	G9284	G9288	G9289	G9290	G9291	G9419	G9421	G9422	G9424
G9699	H0046	H0047	J0220	J0256	J1566	J1599	J1729	J3301	J3490
J3590	J3591	J7192	J7195	J7199	J7599	J7699	J7799	J7999	J8498
J8499	J8597	J8999	J9020	J9999	K0108	K0812	K0898	K0900	L0999
L1499	L2999	L3649	L3999	L5999	L7499	L8039	L8048	L8499	L8699
P9099	Q0181	Q0507	Q0508	Q0509	Q2039	Q4050	Q4051	Q4082	Q4100
Q5009	S0590	S2409	S4015	S5130	S5131	S5181	S5199	S5497	S8189
S8301	S9379	S9445	S9446	S9542	S9810	S9976	S9977	T1505	T1999
T2025	T2028	T2029	T2032	T2033	T5999	V2199	V2799	V5090	V5267
V5274	V5287	V5298	V5299						