Certified Nurse Midwives, Certified Professional Midwives, Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants

Policy
Harvard Pilgrim reimburses professional services rendered by certified nurse midwives (CNM), certified professional midwives (CPM), nurse practitioners (NP) and physician assistants (PA) based on specific contract terms and state requirements.

Policy Definition
State law governs the specific services that may be performed by certified nurse midwives (CNM), certified professional midwives (CPM), nurse practitioners (NP), and physician assistants (PA). It is the responsibility of the practitioner or the supervising physician, where applicable, to assure full compliance with state law in the state where the services are provided.

Harvard Pilgrim contracts with and offers a unique individual Harvard Pilgrim provider number as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practitioner</th>
<th>MA</th>
<th>ME</th>
<th>NH</th>
<th>RI</th>
<th>CT</th>
<th>VT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Certified Professional Midwife</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Certified Nurse Midwife</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Physician Assistant</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Certified Professional Midwife and Certified Nurse Midwife: cannot be PCPs.
2 Certified Professional Midwife and Certified Nurse Midwife: cannot be PCPs.
3 Nurse Practitioner: PCP in MA, ME, NH, CT and VT if trained/certified in areas of family practice, gerontology, adult, and pediatrics. Specialist in MA, ME, NH and CT if trained/certified in one of these specialties: acute care, diabetes management, neonatal, or women’s health care.
4 Physician Assistant: PCP in MA and CT only.

Prerequisite(s)
Applicable Harvard Pilgrim referral, notification, and authorization policies and procedures apply. (Refer to Referral, Notification and Authorization for more information.)

HMO/POS/PPO
• Referral is required for specialist services for HMO and in-network POS members.
• Referral is not required if the clinician is designated as the member’s PCP. Referral is required by product for all states when the clinician is acting as a specialist.

Open Access HMO and POS
For Open Access HMO and Open Access POS products, no referral is required to see a contracted specialist.

Harvard Pilgrim Reimburses

HMO/POS/PPO
• Services provided by participating CNMs, CMs, NPs, and PAs, based on Harvard Pilgrim standard methodologies, Harvard Pilgrim contract terms, and the appropriate Harvard Pilgrim fee schedule.
• Non-physician practitioner claims are reimbursed at a rate equal to 85% of the supervising physicians reimbursement rate.
• Assistant surgeon services when the assistant at surgery is a physician, a physician assistant, or a nurse practitioner, consistent with CMS’ determination of approved procedure codes payable to an assistant surgeon.
  - Assistant surgeon services are reimbursed at 16% of the applicable allowable rate.
  - Secondary surgical services are reimbursed at 8% of the applicable allowable rate.
Harvard Pilgrim Does Not Reimburse

HMO/POS/PPO

A surgical first assistant or a registered nurse first assistant (RNFA) as an assistant at surgery unless required by state mandate.

Member Cost-Sharing

Services subject to applicable member out-of-pocket cost (e.g., co-payment, coinsurance, deductible).

Provider Billing Guidelines and Documentation

- When Harvard Pilgrim does not contract directly with the non-physician practitioner submit claims by appending modifier SA and using the supervising physician’s name in box 31 of the paper CMS-1500, and supervising physician’s National Provider Identifier (NPI) in box 24j of the CMS-1500 form for paper submitters. For electronic submitters send supervising physician’s National Provider Identifier (NPI) in segment NM109 with 82 qualifier in NM108 of loop 2310B of the electronic 837P, version 5010. As of January 01, 2019 modifier SA is required.
- When Harvard Pilgrim contracts directly with the non-physician practitioner submit claims using the non-physician practitioner’s name and National Provider Identifier (NPI) without modifier SA.
- Bill non-physician assistant surgeon services with an AS modifier in the first modifier field; this applies even if the claim is submitted under the contracted supervising physician’s National Provider Identifier (NPI).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modifier</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS</td>
<td>Physician billing for non-physician practitioner for assistant at surgery</td>
<td>Reimbursed at 16% of the applicable allowable rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>Physician billing for non-physician practitioner</td>
<td>No impact on reimbursement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Related Policies

- Claims Submission Guidelines
- Clinical Credentialing and Recredentialing Policy
- Evaluation and Management Payment Policy
- Surgery Payment Policy

Publication History

07/01/03 original documentation
04/01/05 annual review; removed incident-to and independent services requirements
01/31/06 annual review; MA NP contract exception language added
04/30/07 annual review; minor edits for clarity
04/30/08 annual review; policy title change; edits for clarity
11/10/08 added MA NP as PCP—effective January 1, 2009
01/31/09 updated NPI info for clarity
03/15/09 annual review, added clinical midwives, updates to assistant surgery modifiers
04/15/10 annual review; no changes
11/15/10 policy update, CMS standard methodology replaced with Harvard Pilgrim standard methodology
04/15/11 annual review; update to Harvard Pilgrim contracting for certified midwives in Maine
01/01/12 removed First Seniority Freedom information from header
04/15/12 annual review; no changes
11/15/12 updated physician assistant contracting grid to align with MA mandate
04/15/13 annual review; added info re: NPs
06/15/14 added Connecticut Open Access HMO referral information to Prerequisites
08/15/14 annual review; added CT as a state in Policy Definition section; administrative edits for clarity
03/15/15 annual review; no changes
03/15/16 annual review; updated Practitioner grid to include contracts with MA Certified Nurse Midwives; added Vermont to Practitioner grid; added EDI information for clarification; administrative edit
01/15/17 updated Policy Definition section, footnote 3, to include Vermont NP’s able to practice as PCP’s
03/15/17 annual review; no changes
01/01/18 updated Open Access Product referral information under Prerequisites
03/01/18 annual review; no updates
11/01/18 added modifier SA billing guidelines; updated NP in Rhode Island

This policy applies to the products of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and its affiliates—Harvard Pilgrim Health Care of Connecticut, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care of New England, and HPHC Insurance Company—for services performed by contracted providers. Payment is based on member benefits and eligibility, medical necessity review, where applicable, and provider contractual agreement. Payment for covered services rendered by contracted providers will be reimbursed at the lesser of charges or the contracted rate. (Does not apply to inpatient per diem, DRG, or case rates.) HPHC reserves the right to amend a payment policy at its discretion. CPT and HCPCS codes are updated annually. Always use the most recent CPT and HCPCS coding guidelines.