**Dialysis**

**Policy**
Harvard Pilgrim reimburses contracted providers for provision of dialysis services.

**Policy Definition**
*Dialysis* is an artificial process that takes over some of the work normally performed by healthy kidneys. The main functions of dialysis include clearing wastes from the blood, restoring the balance of certain electrolytes in the blood, and eliminating extra fluid from the body.

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

**HMO/PPO/POS**
- An order is required for home dialysis services.
- Notification is required for inpatient admissions. (Refer to *Emergent/Urgent Admission Notification* and *Elective Admissions Notification* for specific requirements.)

**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 Reimburses¹**

**HMO/POS/PPO**
- Hemodialysis during the first 30 months (Medicare primary coverage commences after the patient’s first 30 months of hemodialysis for Medicare eligible end stage renal disease [ESRD] members.)

**Freestanding Outpatient**
- Freestanding outpatient dialysis facilities at an all-inclusive global rate, per treatment, including but not limited to:
  - All services rendered during dialysis treatment
  - Disposable supplies
  - Drugs and biologicals, related to dialysis treatment administered by dialysis clinicians
  - Laboratory tests rendered by the dialysis facility
  - Nutritional counseling when medically necessary
  - Relevant facility fees
  - Related solutions
  - Hemoperfusion and hemofiltration
- Additional services are reimbursed separately from the global rate, including:
  - Medically necessary non-emergent ambulance transport (wheel-chair van) (provided by a contracted provider), in lieu of ambulance transportation, to/from the nearest renal dialysis facility that is capable of furnishing services for a member with ESRD
  - Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis training
  - Ultrafiltration

**Home Dialysis**
- Home dialysis, per treatment, at an all-inclusive global rate, including but not limited to:
  - Adjustable dialysis chair.
  - Certain drugs and biologicals, related to dialysis treatment, when they cannot be self-administered and/or when durable medical equipment is necessary for their administration.
PAYMENT POLICIES

- Deionization or reverse osmosis water purification systems for home dialysis use. Including activated carbon filters when prescribed by a physician.
- Disposable supplies.
- Installation charges (may apply to the member’s lifetime limit), maintenance and reconditioning of home dialysis equipment is available to members at no cost.
- Supplies necessary to perform all modalities of home dialysis.
- Support services furnished by an approved ESRD facility.
- Ultrafiltration monitor as a component of hemodialysis.

Other home dialysis reimbursement information
Self-administered medications including Epoetin Alfa (Epogen) are not separately reimbursed and are only covered when the member has the prescription drug benefit.

Inpatient dialysis care
- Inpatient dialysis care is reimbursed as determined by the contracted rate for inpatient services. (Refer to Inpatient Acute Medical Admissions.)
- Inpatient dialysis care provided to members at a skilled nursing facility or inpatient rehabilitation long term acute care hospital may be separately reimbursable when provided and billed by a Harvard Pilgrim contracted dialysis provider. (Refer to Skilled Nursing Facility and Rehabilitation Facilities/Long Term Acute Care Hospitals.)

Harvard Pilgrim Does Not Reimburse
HMO/POS/PPO
- Acquisition of water, electricity or waste disposal systems for home dialysis treatment or the cost of water or electricity used in the home
- Compensation of an assistant for home dialysis
- Epoetin Alfa (Epogen) separately (unless specified in your provider agreement)
- Spare deionization tanks
- Services obtained from a non-participating provider that were not authorized by Harvard Pilgrim
- Ultrafiltration monitor independent of conventional dialysis
- Peridex continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD) filter sets
- Portable dialysis systems

Member Cost-Sharing
Services subject to applicable member out-of-pocket cost (e.g., copayment, coinsurance, deductible).

Provider Billing Guidelines and Documentation
Coding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0801–809</td>
<td>Inpatient dialysis</td>
<td>Report the number of sessions in Form Locator 46 of the paper UB-04 form or loop 2400, SV2 segment with UN qualifier in the SV204 and number of units in SV205 of the electronic 837I claim.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 0820–889 | Outpatient or home dialysis and miscellaneous     | • Bill monthly or at the conclusion of treatment, if earlier  
<p>|          |                                                  | • Report the number of units for revenue code 082X–085X in Form Locator 46 of the paper UB-04 form or loop 2400, SV2 segment with UN qualifier in the SV204 and number of units in SV205 of the electronic 837I claim. |</p>
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<tr>
<td>0881</td>
<td>Miscellaneous dialysis–ultrafiltration</td>
<td>Submit this revenue code when ultrafiltration is not performed as part of a normal dialysis session.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>085X</td>
<td>Continuous cycling peritoneal dialysis (CCPD)— outpatient or home</td>
<td>This revenue code should not be billed with revenue code categories 082X, 083X, 084X and revenue code 0881 on the same claim.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1632</td>
<td>Wearable artificial kidney, each</td>
<td>Not reimbursed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1635</td>
<td>Compact (portable) travel hemodialyzer system</td>
<td>Not reimbursed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4081</td>
<td>Injection, epoetin alfa, 100 units (for ESRD on dialysis)</td>
<td>Not reimbursed unless specified in the provider agreement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Policies**

**Payment Policies**

- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- Hospice Care
- Inpatient Acute Medical Admissions
- Non-covered Services
- Skilled Nursing Facility
- Rehabilitation Facilities/Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals

**Referral, Notification & Authorization**

- Authorization Policy
- Elective Admission Notification
- Emergent/Urgent Admission Notification
- Notification Policy

**Clinical/Authorization Policies**

- Home Health Care Authorization
- Medical Transportation

**PUBLICATION HISTORY**

- 09/01/00 original documentation
- 05/01/02 added peritoneal dialysis coding
- 01/01/03 added temporary out-of-area dialysis for First Seniority members
- 04/01/03 annual review; authorization clarification
- 10/01/04 non-covered services, addition of Harvard Pilgrim and Medicare coverage for hemodialysis; dialysis reimbursement under inpatient, outpatient, home and freestanding locations
- 10/31/04 annual review; clarified services reimbursed separately from the global rate
- 01/31/07 annual review; no changes
- 10/31/07 annual review; clarified wheelchair van reimbursement
- 10/31/08 annual review; update to billing guideline and documentation
- 09/15/09 annual review; minor updates to coding grid; clarified Epogen
- 10/15/09 minor edits to clarify Epogen
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.

The table may not include all provider claims codes related to dialysis.