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>Certified Professional Midwife</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Nurse Midwife</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Assistant</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Certified Professional Midwife and Certified Nurse Midwife: cannot be PCPs

Nurse Practitioner: PCP in MA, ME, NH, RI, CT and VT if trained/certified in areas of family practice, gerontology, adult, and pediatrics. Specialist in MA, ME, NH, RI, CT, and VT.

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
- A referral is required for specialist services for HMO and in-network POS members.
- A 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
- 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.
PAYMENT POLICIES

- 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 when modifier 80, 81 or 82 is appended.
  - Secondary surgical services are reimbursed at 8% of the applicable allowable rate when modifier 80, 81 or 82 is appended.
  - Assistant surgeon services are reimbursed at 14% of the applicable allowable rate when modifier AS is appended.
  - Secondary surgical services are reimbursed at 7% of the applicable allowable rate when modifier AS is appended.

**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 in data element NM109 with XX qualifier in NM108 in the rendering provider loop 2310B of the electronic 837P.
- 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 14% of the applicable fee schedule/allowable rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>Physician billing for non-physician practitioner</td>
<td>Reimbursed at 85% of the supervising physicians reimbursement rate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Related Policies**

**Payment Policies**
- Evaluation and Management
- Surgery

**Billing and Reimbursement**
- Claims Submission Guidelines

**Network Operations & Care Delivery Management**
- Clinical Credentialing and Recredentialing Policy

**PUBLICATION HISTORY**

07/01/03 original documentation
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.