



Incident To

Reimbursement Policy ID: RPC.0014.1200

Recent review date: 06/2024

Next review date: 06/2026

AmeriHealth Caritas North Carolina reimbursement policies and their resulting edits are based on guidelines from established industry sources, such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the American Medical Association (AMA), state and federal regulatory agencies, and medical specialty professional societies. Reimbursement policies are intended as a general reference and do not constitute a contract or other guarantee of payment. AmeriHealth Caritas North Carolina may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying its policies to services provided in a particular case and may modify its policies at any time.

In making claim payment determinations, the health plan also uses coding terminology and methodologies based on accepted industry standards, including Current Procedural Terminology (CPT); the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS); and the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM), and other relevant sources. Other factors that may affect payment include medical record documentation, legislative or regulatory mandates, a provider's contract, a member's eligibility in receiving covered services, submission of clean claims, and other health plan policies, and other relevant factors. These factors may supplement, modify, or in some cases supersede reimbursement policies.

This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on a CMS-1500 form or its electronic equivalent, or when billed on a UB-04 form or its electronic equivalent.

Policy Overview

AmeriHealth Caritas North Carolina does not reimburse services billed “incident to” the professional services of a supervising health care provider provided in an office or clinic setting.

Exceptions

N/A

Reimbursement Guidelines

“Incident to” allows outpatient services that are furnished by auxiliary personnel to be billed under a physician’s national provider identification (NPI) number. AmeriHealth Caritas North Carolina does not cover this type of billing and the claim will be denied.

Definitions

Incident to
“Incident to” a physician’s professional services means that the services or supplies are furnished as an integral, although incidental, part of the physician’s personal professional services in the course of diagnosis or treatment of an injury or illness.

Edit Sources

- I. Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and associated publications and services
- II. <https://www.cms.gov/regulations-and-guidance/guidance/transmittals/downloads/r1764b3.pdf>

Attachments

N/A

Associated Policies

N/A

Policy History

06/2024	Reimbursement Policy Committee Approval
04/2024	Revised preamble
08/2023	Removal of policy implemented by AmeriHealth Caritas North Carolina from Policy History section
01/2023	Template Revised <ul style="list-style-type: none">Revised preambleRemoval of Applicable Claim Types tableCoding section renamed to Reimbursement GuidelinesAdded Associated Policies section