

TO: Certified Nurse Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwife Groups, Podiatrists & Podiatry Groups

RE: Revising the Reimbursement Methodology for Certified Nurse Midwives and Podiatrists

Pursuant to section 333 of Public Act 21-2 of the June 2021 special session, the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) reimbursement rates for certified nurse midwife (CNM) and podiatrist services will be set at the same rate as if they were performed by a physician.

Effective for dates of service July 1, 2021 and forward, the Department of Social Services (DSS) will reimburse CMAP enrolled CNMs and podiatrists 100% of the rate listed on the following CMAP fee schedules:

- Physician office and outpatient;
- Physician radiology,
- Physician surgery; and,
- Laboratory.

<u>Certified Nurse Midwives & Certified</u> <u>Nurse Midwife Groups:</u>

Effective for dates of service July 1, 2021 and forward, Sec. 17b-262-853(c) Payment Rate of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is superseded by section 333 of Public Act 21-2 of the June 2021 special session. Additionally, this provider bulletin supersedes the sections pertaining to payment rates for services rendered by CNMs in previously published PBs including but not limited to):

• <u>PB 2003-73</u> Additional Modifiers for Physician Providers • <u>PB 2005-45</u> Clarification of Billing Protocol for Nurse Practitioners and Nurse Midwives.

CNMs must continue billing modifier SB to identify that the services were rendered by a CNM. For dates of service July 1, 2021 and forward, claims submitted with modifier SB will pay at 100% of the applicable physician fee schedule rates. Claims for dates of service prior to July 1, 2021 will continue to pay at 90% of the physician fee schedule. This update to the CMAP claim system will not require any action from the providers.

Podiatrists/ Podiatry Groups:

All claims submitted by podiatrists and podiatry groups will pay at 100% of the physician fee schedules for dates of service July 1, 2021 and forward. Claims for dates of service prior to July 1, 2021 will continue to pay at 90% of the physician fee schedule. This update to the CMAP claim system will not require any action from the providers.

For dates of service July 1, 2021 and forward, this PB supersedes any previously published guidance specifying that the payment rate for services rendered by podiatrists will be 90% of the physician fee.

Providers are encouraged to bill their usual and customary charge when submitting podiatry claims to ensure the systematic reprocessing of their claims whenever a rate change occurs. DSS will issue an Important Message (IM) to notify providers when these claims are identified and reprocessed to reimburse based on the new reimbursement methodology.

Accessing the Fee Schedules:

The updated fee schedules can be accessed and downloaded by going to the CMAP Web site: <u>www.ctdssmap.com.</u> From this Web page, go to "Provider", then to "Provider Fee Schedule Download", scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "I Accept", then select the applicable fee schedule. To access the CSV file, press the control key while clicking the CSV link, then select "Open".

<u>Posting Instructions</u>: Policy transmittals can be downloaded from the Web site at <u>www.ctdssmap.com</u>.

Distribution: This policy transmittal is being distributed to providers of the CMAP by Gainwell Technologies.

<u>Responsible Unit</u>: DSS, Division of Health Services, Medical Policy; Dana Robinson-Rush, Health Program Assistant, email <u>Dana.Robinson-Rush@ct.gov</u>.

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