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MEDICAL MUTUAL®

Mutual News Bulletin

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Reimbursement Policies

Notice of Material Amendment: Repeat Admissions (Readmissions) and Leave of Absence Reimbursement Policy and Provider Manual Modifications

Effective September 18, 2024, Medical Mutual is making the following changes to the existing Reimbursement Policy: Hospital Readmissions RP-201902:

- Reimbursement Policy: Hospital Readmissions RP 201902 will no longer apply to Medicare Advantage plans and is renamed Reimbursement Policy: Hospital Readmissions – Non-Medicare Advantage RP 201902.
- In addition, Medical Mutual has clarified that the policy will apply when acute care hospitals and hospital systems are contracted under DRG or Case Rate methodology, and under the policy, any associated observation charges related to a denied readmission will also be denied.

Effective September 18, 2024, Medical Mutual will implement Reimbursement Policy: Hospital Readmissions – Medicare Advantage RP-202408. This Reimbursement Policy will apply to Medicare Advantage plans and is a restatement of the provisions that were applicable to Medicare Advantage plans under the prior version of Reimbursement Policy: Hospital Readmissions RP-201902, with the following modifications:

- Medical Mutual's readmission reviews for Medicare Advantage Plans will be expanded to the following situations, which will be in addition to already existing reviews of full inpatient readmissions that follow initial inpatient stays: (a) reviews of full inpatient readmissions that follow initial observation stays, (b) reviews of observation stays that follow initial inpatient stays, (c) reviews of observation stays that follow initial observation stays.
- Additionally, any associated observation charges related to a denied full inpatient readmission will also be denied.

Consistent with these Reimbursement Policy modifications, Medical Mutual is also modifying the following sections of the Provider Manual:

- Section 9 – Institutional Reimbursement Overview: The following section was revised:
 - Repeat Admissions/Leave of Absence sub-section of the Payment Categories and Methodologies Section
- Section 12 – Medicare Advantage Plans and Guidelines: The following section was revised:
 - Billing for Hospital Readmissions sub-section of the Additional Medicare Advantage Guidelines Section

To view these policies, visit [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) and under the Provider menu select Policies and Standards > [Reimbursement Policies](#), and to view changes made to the Provider Manual visit [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) > [Provider Manual](#).

Revised Reimbursement Policy – 3D Printed Models, Implants, Surgical Navigation Systems, and Cardiac Mapping Systems

Effective July 22, 2024, Medical Mutual is updating the following Reimbursement Policy to include additional provisions concerning Surgical Navigation Systems and Cardiac Mapping Systems:

- 3D Printed Models, Implants, Surgical Navigation Systems, and Cardiac Mapping Systems: Policy Number RP-202202
To view this policy, visit [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) and under the Providers menu select Policies and Standards > [Reimbursement Policies](#).

New Reimbursement Policy – Modifier SU

Effective July 22, 2024, Medical Mutual is implementing the following Reimbursement Policy:

- Modifier SU: Policy Number RP-202409
To view this policy, visit [MedMutual.com/Provider](https://www.MedMutual.com/Provider) and under the Providers menu select Policies and Standards > [Reimbursement Policies](#).