Optum CES Outpatient Code Editor (OCE) Edits

Effective Date: Sept. 1 and Dec. 1, 2022

Health Plans Affected: Priority Partners, Johns Hopkins US Family Health Plan (USFHP), Johns Hopkins Employer Health Programs (EHP)

Type of Change: Claims Editing System

Explanation of Change:
As previously communicated, the Optum CES claims editing system will take the place of McKesson ClaimCheck for Priority Partners, Johns Hopkins US Family Health Plan (USFHP) and Johns Hopkins Employer Health Programs (EHP). This will be effective for USFHP and Priority Partners on Sept. 1, 2022 and EHP on Dec. 1, 2022.

Optum CES edits include CMS' Outpatient Code Editor (OCE) edits. The OCE is an editing system created and maintained by CMS to process outpatient facility claims. The OCE edits identify incorrect and improper coding of these claims. CMS developed the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI or CCI) to promote consistent and correct coding methodologies. JHHC has adopted a subset of the OCE edits and will use these when processing outpatient facility claims. JHHC's NCCI and MUE reimbursement policy states that JHHC will not provide reimbursement for services identified through the OCE system as billing/coding errors. RPC.014_NCCI_MUE_Edits.pdf (hopkinsmedicine.org)

For more information, providers can access the link below to see quarterly updates to the OCE edits for regulated and non-regulated facilities I/OCE Quarterly Release Files | CMS*

Please see the attached list of OCE edits for Medicaid** and TRICARE** that will be applicable for Priority Partners and USFHP as of Sept. 1.

Also, with the implementation of Optum CES, providers should bill according to CMS billing guidelines for bilateral and multiple procedure reductions (modifier 50 and modifier 51).

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