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Research Billing



Buzz

A Newsletter from the Office of Clinical Research Billing Compliance

Volume 13

May 2020

**Clinical Research Revenue
FAQ**

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Clinical Research Revenue FAQ

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In the [April issue](#) of the *Research Billing Buzz* we discussed the nuances of the research fees schedules. This month we are reviewing the most frequently asked questions that we receive in emails and during training.

Please keep in mind that we have some training sessions available this week. You are still on time to register! If you missed the notification, just click [here](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are the research discounts for this year?

Each year the total research charges billed to all RSH study accounts are analyzed to determine new discount percentages. The discount rates for statements generated after April 1, 2020 Hospital Billing (HB) charges will be 71.1% of the facility charge master for Government/Not for Profit organizations and by 56.8% for Pharmaceutical/For Profit sponsors.

The governing board of the JHU SOM Clinical Practice Association establish the Medicare equivalency rate, representing a discount from standard department fee schedules. Professional fee charges are equivalent to 150% of the Medicare Fee Schedule.

2. Does the same discount apply to all hospital charges?

No. A separate discount structure exists for fees used in budgets for imaging services on the Johns Hopkins Hospital campus: RadResearchBilling@jhmi.edu

3. Who sends the statements every month?

The self-pay unit within Revenue Cycle Management (RCM) emails the statements and processes payment.

4. Why are there different prices for the same service (CPT code) in my statement?

Because the Maryland hospital rate regulation body known as the “Health Services Cost Review Commission” (HSCRC) periodically adjusts our facility charge description master, the amount charged over time during a year may fluctuate. This means a service CDM charge rate can move up or down, yet the established discount rate for hospital patient service charges during a year remains fixed.

5. Something is wrong! I did not received a research discount for the hospital charges. Why?

When RCM sends the PDF of the statement by email, the email message contains information about the discount that will be applied to the total of the hospital charges. Remember that the professional fee charges are already discounted at a charge code level.

6. The statement for my study keeps going to the wrong person.

What should I do?

Ask the person to forward you both the email and the statement and reply to the original sender. Give them your information and the Epic's research record will be updated.

7. What happens if I do not agree with my statement?

If you do not agree with the charges in the statement, reply to the sender of the email. Please be as specific as possible when describing the issue. RCM staff will place the account in an Epic work queue for CRBC re-review. A CRBC Analyst might contact you with questions and corrections will be made as needed.

For a copy of the slides of the "Make of a Statement Presentation, click [here](#).

How to Read Your Epic Statement

Most times, if you schedule and order research services in regular clinical spaces* you will receive a monthly research statement from the Epic system. This statement contains charges for both hospital and professional fee services.

*Note: this does not apply to services in the CRUs or other arrangements

The first part of the statement contains the summary of charges.:

Page 1 of 2

Research Statement Account Charges as of 02/06/20
Guarantor Number: 450000XXXX

JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICINE

Guarantor Number: 450000XXXX **Account number**

Guarantor Name: A Phase I Study of the Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of

Guarantor Address: Scott Streibich/sstreib1@jhmi.edu/Study IO# 9004XXXX, **Person that gets the statement, their email and IO#**

BALTIMORE, MD 21287 CRMS Number: CRMS-7XXXX

IRB Number: IRB0009XXXX

For more information: Please contact the Business Office at RCM-CR@jhmi.edu. Itemized summaries of previous statements will be provided upon request. **Contact for questions**

New Hospital Billing Charge Summary

Account #	Date	Amount
500618XXXX - A Phase I Study of the Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics	01/01/20-01/31/20	\$160.44
Total New Charges		\$160.44

Summary of HB and PB Total new charges

New Professional Billing Charge Summary

Account #	Date	Amount
1518XXXX - Doe, John	10/19/19	\$119.30
Total New Charges		\$119.30

Next, you will find the detail of the hospital charges (HB). It is very easy to identify the participants, DOS, and amount billed. Remember that you must read the statement with the memo in the email to understand your HB discount (see question 5 above).

HB Charge Detail

Procedure	CPT(R) Code	Svc Dt	Amount
Hospital Services			
Service #: 500618XXXX			
Outpatient			
The Johns Hopkins Hospital			
Participant Information			
Patient: Skywalker, Luke MRN: JH4283XXXX Sex: Male DOB: 01/01/60 SSN: xxx-xx-9999			
51000006-HC OFFICE/OUTPATIENT VISIT EST LVL 1	99211	11/07/2019	\$53.48
Service and code		DOS	Price
Patient: Solo, Han MRN: JH4283XXXX Sex: Male DOB: 01/01/60 SSN: xxx-xx-9999			
51000006-HC OFFICE/OUTPATIENT VISIT EST LVL 1	99211	01/05/2020	\$53.48
Patient: Organa, Leia MRN: JH4283XXXX Sex: Female DOB: 01/01/60 SSN: xxx-xx-9999			
51000006-HC OFFICE/OUTPATIENT VISIT EST LVL 1	99211	11/07/2019	\$53.48

Finally, you will see the detail of your professional fee charges (PB).

PB Charge Detail			
Procedure Description	CPT Code	Svc Dt	Orig Amt
Physician Services			
Service #: 15182559 Outpatient The Johns Hopkins Hospital	The only difference is that these charges are already discounted		
Patient: Antilles,Wedge MRN: JH4283XXXX Sex: Male DOB: 10/01/55 SSN: xxx-xx-9999			
MRI BRAIN	70551	11/21/2019	\$119.30

Did we answer all your questions? Do you have more? Emails us!

Need Help?

If you need help, have questions or want to suggest topics for future newsletters you can email us at:

CLINIRESBILLING@exchange.johnshopkins.edu

For more information, visit the **Research Revenue Cycle Website**

[Research Rev Cycle Website](#)



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