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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

In this Issue



## 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.

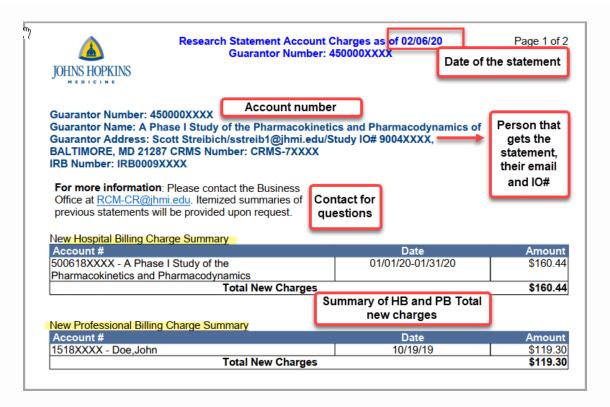
For a copy of the slides of the "Make of a Statement Presentation, click here."

## **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

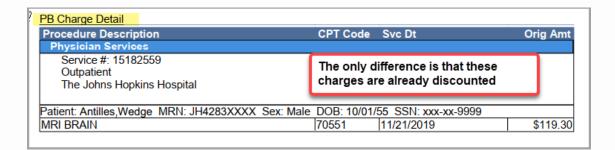
The first part of the statetament contains the summary of charges.:



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 undestand your HB discount (see question 5 above).

Procedure	CPT(R) Code	Svc Dt	Amount
Hospital Services			
Service #: 500618XXXX			
Outpatient			
The Johns Hopkins Hospital			Participant
			Information
Patient: Skywalker,Luke MRN: JH4283XXX	X Sex: Male DOB: 01/0	1/60 SSN: xxx-xx-99	IIIIOIIIIauoii
51000006-HC OFFICE/OUTPATIENT VISIT	99211	11/07/2019	\$53.48
EST LVL 1 Service	e and code	DOS	Price
Patient: Solo, Han MRN: JH4283X	. MIGIC DOD. 00/0 1/00	JOI1. AAA AA UUUU	
51000006-HC OFFICE/OUTPATIENT VISIT	99211	01/05/2020	\$53.48
EST LVL 1			
Patient: Organa,Leia MRN: JH4283XXXX S	Sex: Female DOB: 01/01	1/60 SSN: xxx-xx-9999	9
51000006-HC OFFICE/OUTPATIENT VISIT	99211	11/07/2019	\$53.48
			I .

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



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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