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PAYMENT POLICY ID NUMBER: 10-002

Original Effective Date: 03/25/2010

Revised: 03/13/2025

After Hours and Weekend Care

THIS PAYMENT POLICY IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION, CERTIFICATION, EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS, OR A GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT, NOR DOES IT SUBSTITUTE FOR OR CONSTITUTE MEDICAL ADVICE. ALL MEDICAL DECISIONS ARE SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PATIENT AND PHYSICIAN. BENEFITS ARE DETERMINED BY THE GROUP CONTRACT, MEMBER BENEFIT BOOKLET, AND/OR INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIBER CERTIFICATE IN EFFECT AT THE TIME SERVICES WERE RENDERED. THIS PAYMENT POLICY APPLIES TO ALL LINES OF BUSINESS AND PROVIDERS OF SERVICE. IT DOES NOT ADDRESS ALL POTENTIAL ISSUES RELATED TO PAYMENT FOR SERVICES PROVIDED TO FLORIDA BLUE MEMBERS AS LEGISLATIVE MANDATES, PROVIDER CONTRACT DOCUMENTS OR THE MEMBER'S BENEFIT COVERAGE MAY SUPERSEDE THIS POLICY.

DESCRIPTION:

Florida Blue may provide additional reimbursement for physicians for seeing patients that may otherwise be required to seek care in emergency room or urgent care settings. This policy describes the reimbursement for after hours and weekend care in addition to basic services provided in the office setting.

This policy applies to billing for services on a CMS-1500 or equivalent claim form. Same provider for the purposes of this policy includes all physicians and/or other health care professionals reporting under the same Federal Tax Identification number.

REIMBURSEMENT INFORMATION:

Florida Blue will provide compensation to physicians for after hours and weekend care provided in an office setting for CPT® codes 99050 and 99051, when the basic service being rendered is eligible for reimbursement. Procedures 99050 and 99051 are to be reported in addition to the basic service. Evening hours are defined as after 5:00 p.m.

CPT® codes 99053, 99056, 99058 and 99060 are not separately reimbursable and are considered included in the allowance of other services.

CPT® codes 99050 and 99051 were designed as codes for use by physicians to obtain reimbursement for having an office open to render services after regularly scheduled office hours or during scheduled evening, weekend, or holiday office hours. Therefore, these codes are not reimbursed when submitted with Virtual Visits.

BILLING/CODING INFORMATION:

The following codes may be used to report after hours and weekend care:

CPT® Coding

99050	Services provided in the office at times other than regularly scheduled office hours, or days when the office is normally closed (e.g., holidays, Saturday, or Sunday), in addition to basic service
99051	Service(s) provided in the office during regular scheduled evening, weekend, or holiday office hours, in addition to basic service
99053	Service(s) provided between 10:00 PM and 8:00 AM at 24-hour facility, in addition to basic service
99056	Service(s) typically provided in the office, provided out of the office at request of patient, in addition to basic service
99058	Service(s) provided on an emergency basis in the office, which disrupts other scheduled office services, in addition to basic service
99060	Service(s) provided on an emergency basis, out of the office, which disrupts other scheduled office services, in addition to basic service

RELATED MEDICAL COVERAGE GUIDELINES OR PAYMENT POLICIES:

B-Status Codes 10-004
Virtual Visits 20-069

REFERENCES:

1. American Medical Association, *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®), Professional Edition*
2. CMS, Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Relative Value File
<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/PhysicianFeeSched/PFS-Relative-Value-Files.html>

GUIDELINE UPDATE INFORMATION:

03/25/2010	New Policy
04/25/2010	99058 no longer eligible for separate reimbursement
06/29/2010	Updated definition of evening hours
05/02/2011	Updated definition of evening hours
04/13/2012	Replace Blue Cross Blue Shield Florida with Florida Blue
03/15/2016	Minor revisions to Reimbursement Information and defined "Evening Hours"
03/09/2017	Annual Review – no changes
03/15/2018	Annual Review
03/28/2019	Annual Review – removed paragraphs regarding services before and after 01/01/2017; no material changes
03/12/2020	Annual Review
03/11/2021	Annual Review: Statement added in "Reimbursement Information" section indicating CPT® codes 99050 and 99051 are not reimbursed with Virtual Visits.

03/17/2022	Annual Review – No changes
03/09/2023	Annual Review – References reviewed and updated.
03/14/2024	Annual Review – References reviewed and updated.
03/13/2025	Annual Review – Clarifying language added to indicate this policy applies to billing for services on a CMS-1500 or equivalent claim form. References reviewed and updated.

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