### Reimbursement Policy

**Subject:** Abortion (Termination of Pregnancy)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>Committee Approval Obtained</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08/03/18</td>
<td>08/03/18</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**** The most current version of our reimbursement policies can be found on our provider website. If you are using a printed version of this policy, please verify the information by going to [https://mediproviders.anthem.com/ca](https://mediproviders.anthem.com/ca). ****

These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claim submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement by Anthem Blue Cross (Anthem) if the service is covered by Medi-Cal Managed Care. The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member’s benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member’s state of residence. You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with CPT codes, HCPCS codes and/or revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed code(s) are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to both participating and nonparticipating providers and facilities.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Anthem may:

- Reject or deny the claim.
- Recover and/or recoup claim payment.

Anthem reimbursement policies are developed based on nationally accepted industry standards and coding principles. These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements. System logic or setup may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, Anthem strives to minimize these variations.

Anthem reserves the right to review and revise our policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to this site.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthem allows reimbursement of induced abortions unless provider,</td>
<td>Reimbursement is based on the applicable fee schedule or state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise. Induced abortions are allowed without medical justification.</td>
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<tr>
<td>state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise.</td>
<td>Reimbursement is based on the applicable fee schedule or contracted/negotiated rate. Informed consent is not needed for the treatment of incomplete, missed or septic abortions. These procedures are not considered induced or elective abortions and are allowed under the criteria of medical necessity.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### History
- Biennial review approved and effective **08/03/18**
- Initial approval **07/19/17** and effective **10/05/17**

### References and Research Materials
This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:
- CMS
- California Department of Health Care Services Policies
- Anthem contract with the California Department of Health Care Services
- Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Subpart E — Abortions §441.200- §441.208

### Definitions
- **Abortion, Induced**: one resulting from measures taken to intentionally end a pregnancy, using medications (medical abortion) or instrumentation (surgery)
- **Abortion, Incomplete**: part of the product of conception has been retained in the uterus
- **Abortion, Missed**: a dead, nonviable fetus and other products of conception are retained in the uterus for two or more months
- **Abortion, Septic**: there is an infection of the product of conception and the endometrial lining of the uterus usually resulting from attempted interference during early pregnancy
- **Abortion, Spontaneous/Miscarriage**: occurs when a natural cause ends a pregnancy prior to 20 weeks
- **Abortion, Threatened**: the appearance of signs and symptoms of possible loss of embryo
- **Stillborn**: occurs when a natural cause ends a pregnancy after 20 weeks
- **Termination of Pregnancy**: synonym for abortion

### Related Policies
- None

### Related Materials
- None