
These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claims submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement by HealthKeepers, Inc. if the service is covered for Anthem HealthKeepers Plus members. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member's state of residence. Proper billing and submission guidelines are required along with the use of industry-standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. System logic or setup may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, we strive to minimize these variations. For more information on these and other HealthKeepers, Inc. Reimbursement Policies, visit our website at www.anthem.com/vamedicaiddoc.

New Policy

Inpatient Readmissions

(Policy 13-001, effective August 25, 2014)

HealthKeepers, Inc. does not allow separate reimbursement for claims that have been identified as a readmission to the same hospital for the same, similar, or related condition in compliance with federal and/or state mandates regarding inpatient readmissions. Readmissions will be combined into one admission. HealthKeepers, Inc. will use the following standards:

- Readmission up to five days from discharge
- Readmission for the same or similar diagnosis

Exclusions

- Admissions for the medical treatment of cancer, primary psychiatric disease and rehabilitation care;
- Planned readmissions;
- Patient transfers from one acute care hospital to another; and
- Patient discharged from the hospital against medical advice

This policy only affects those facilities reimbursed for inpatient services by a DRG methodology.

HealthKeepers, Inc. reserves the right to recoup and/or recover monies previously paid on a claim that falls within the guidelines of a readmission.

To view specific criteria, please refer to the list of reimbursement policies at: www.anthem.com/vamedicaiddoc. Your continued feedback is critical to our success. If you have questions, call our Provider Services team at 1-800-901-0020.