

Blue Shield Payment Processing Logic

The following provides a high-level, general overview of Blue Shield's payment processing logic. Please refer to Provider Connection at www.blueshieldca.com/provider under the *Claims* tab for the full payment policies. Please call Provider Information & Enrollment at (800) 258-3091 for additional information.

Blue Shield Claim Edits and Industry Standard Correct Coding

Blue Shield utilizes claims editing software that uses correct coding from industry standard sources, such as Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the American Medical Association (AMA), Current Procedural Terminology (CPT), Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS), and health plan-developed policies, as applicable, during the claims adjudication process. Additional sources may be used as defined in the Claim Editing Payment Policy.

The claims editing software is also able to identify previously submitted historical claims that are related to current claim submissions, which may result in adjustments to claims previously processed.

Claims editing software will be updated periodically, without notification, to reflect the addition of newly released, revised, or deleted codes and their associated claim edits, including but not limited to NCCI revisions, and health plan payment policies.

Manual Claim Review

There are numerous situations in which claims may undergo a manual review. When this takes place, the clinical documentation is compared to the submitted claims. If documentation does not support the codes submitted, the codes may be changed to reflect the documentation. If the submitted code is modified or changed after a manual claim review, the EOB message will further define the change.

Prescreen Claims

Blue Shield provides web access to Clear Claim Connection, a tool that enables providers to prospectively prescreen claims. Access and training instructions for Clear Claim Connection can be found on Provider Connection at www.blueshieldca.com/provider under *Claims*, then *How to submit claims*.

Professional and Ancillary Provider Payment Policies

Blue Shield has adopted payment policies for licensed and certified healthcare professional and ancillary provider types. Blue Shield Payment Policies are updated periodically to reflect the addition of newly released, revised, or deleted codes without notification and can be found on Provider Connection at www.blueshieldca.com/provider under *Claims, Policies and Guidelines*, then *Payment Policies and Rules*.

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