



## Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) Implementation Issue Messages - 01/30/06 To Workgroup Members

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APC Project Workgroup Members

Thank you once again to those who responded to the previous OPPS issue e-mails. Your feedback and responses continue to provide valuable information as MDCH moves forward with the OPPS Implementation project.

We will be updating the OPPS website with more detailed information including an updated timeline, frequently asked questions, weekly issues e-mails, and a new link to MDCH's OPPS Implementation Decision Documents. These Decision Documents summarize many of the OPPS Implementation issues reviewed to date and will be posted as either a "Draft" or "Proposed" document. Draft documents are those issues still being researched, whereas Proposed documents contain information which will be included in the Draft Policy bulletin to be released for comment in February. Click on the following link or copy/paste it into your browser to visit MDCH's OPPS website: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945\\_5100-130286--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2945_5100-130286--,00.html)

**This weeks Issue:**

### **Hospital Based Ambulance Providers and OPPS billing on an Outpatient Claim**

**Background:** Currently, MDCH requires all ambulance providers to enroll separately (PT18) and bill for services using the HCFA 1500. Ambulance services are not currently covered for outpatient providers (PT40) and are typically not included on an outpatient claim. Current coverage differences are as follows:

Covered by MDCH - Not Covered by Medicare's OPPS:

A0225 - Neonatal transport  
A0420 - Ambulance Waiting time per ½ hour and  
T2006 - Respond & Treat - No Transport

Not Covered by MDCH - Covered by Medicare's OPPS:

A0432 - Paramedics/First Responders (Volunteers - prohibited from billing 3rd party)  
A0434 - Specialty Care Transport

**Issue:** Under Medicare's OPPS, hospital based ambulance providers can bill for ambulance services on an outpatient claim. MDCH is proposing to follow Medicare's OPPS reimbursement and billing guidelines and allow these services to be billed on an outpatient claim when the ambulance service is hospital based.

### **Questions:**

- 1) Do you have a hospital based ambulance provider currently enrolled as an Ambulance provider with MDCH?
- 2) If yes, do you currently bill for these services combined with outpatient services when submitting a claim to Medicare or any other payer?
- 3) What kind of utilization do you have for A0434 - Specialty Care Transport services?
- 4) What kind of ambulance services would you anticipate billing on your outpatient claims under the proposed OPPS?
- 5) Other concerns/questions/information regarding Ambulance services billable by outpatient providers under the proposed OPPS.

Please only send your responses back to the APC Project e-mail address at [APCProject@michigan.gov](mailto:APCProject@michigan.gov). Thank you.

1/30/06