



**PROVIDER BULLETIN**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>July 15, 2019</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	HEDIS NEWS: Coding well & sick visits
<b>Products:</b>	Medicaid
<b>From:</b>	<b><u>Provider Relations - Medicaid</u></b>

Dear Provider,

Please review the attached notice that contains information about coding well and sick visits.

We appreciate your continued service to our members. Please feel free to contact us via e-mail [FLMedicaidProviderRelations@aetna.com](mailto:FLMedicaidProviderRelations@aetna.com), fax 1-844-235-1340 or speak to a Provider Relations Representative: (MMA) 1-800-441-5501, (LTC) 1-844-645-7371, or (FHK) 1-844-528-5815.

Sincerely,

Provider Relations

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# PROVIDER BULLETIN

## HEDIS News You Can Use Coding: Well and Sick Visits

### Have you ever wondered?

- How can I decrease my Gaps in Care to meet my Well Child measure goals if a patient only comes in when they are sick?
- Can I provide a Well Child exam during a simple Sick Visit?
- If I provide well care during an acute visit, how would I bill.... Well Visit/Sick Visit or Both?



### Well Visit

A well visit is for routine or a yearly health maintenance exam. Assessing physical, emotional and social development is important at every stage of life, particularly with children and adolescents.

Coding for these preventive services would include:  
CPT: 99381-99385; 99391-99395 & 99461. When you bill using these codes you will meet the HEDIS measures below.

#### Well Child Measures

- AWC- Adolescent Well Care
- W15- Well Child Visit 0-15 months
- W34- Well Child Visit 3-6 years

In order to meet this measure, clear demonstration of the following needs to be documented:

- Health History Physical Exam
- Physical Development
- Mental Development
- Anticipatory Guidelines



### Sick Visit

This is an office visit for an acute problem. This could also be an office visit to follow-up on chronic problems (Diabetes, Cholesterol, Blood Pressure, etc.).



### Sick & Well Visit

Preventive services may be rendered on visits other than Well-Child visits. Well-Child preventive services count toward the measure, regardless of the primary intent of the visit.

Aetna allows reimbursement for preventive medicine (for example, Well-Child visits) and sick visits on the same day. Aetna recognizes the additional work involved with providing multiple services on the same date. The following conditions must be met:

- ❖ **CPT-Modifier 25** must be billed with the applicable Evaluation & Management (E/M) code for the allowed sick visit
- ❖ If Modifier 25 is not billed appropriately, the sick visit will be denied
- ❖ Appropriate diagnosis codes must be billed for respective visits

Example: A patient presents for a sprained ankle and the physician orders ankle x-rays. The EMR indicates the patient is due for their well visit. The well visit can be conducted with the exam of the sprained ankle if documentation supports an E/M code.

- ❖ CPT Codes: 99213 (E/M established patient) with **modifier 25** is coded, along with 99392 (Well Care)
- ❖ Diagnosis Codes: V20.2 (Routine infant or child health check)

Example of when **not to use** the E/M code with modifier 25:

During an acute visit for a 12-month-old child, diaper rash is noted in the chart and a prescription for the rash is written. During the visit, an alert shows the child has not been in for a well visit since the child was 6 months old. A well-child visit is conducted during the acute visit.

- ❖ Do not count this visit as a sick visit since the problem (diaper rash) was an insignificant or minor problem
- ❖ Other services may also be appropriate during these types of visits: Vaccines, Height, Weight, BMI values/percentiles



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