



REIMBURSEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

TrueCare

Policy Name & Number	Date Effective
Temporary Codes-TrueCare-PY-1425	07/01/2025
Policy Type	
REIMBURSEMENT	

Reimbursement Policies are intended to provide a general reference regarding billing, coding and documentation guidelines. Coding methodology, regulatory requirements, industry-standard claims editing logic, benefits design, and other factors are considered in developing Reimbursement Policies.

In addition to this policy, reimbursement of services is subject to member benefits and eligibility on the date of service, medical necessity, adherence to plan policies and procedures, claims editing logic, provider contractual agreements, and applicable referral, authorization, notification, and utilization management guidelines. Medically necessary services include, but are not limited to, those health care services or supplies that are proper and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness, or injury and without which the patient can be expected to suffer prolonged, increased, or new morbidity, impairment of function, dysfunction of a body organ or part, or significant pain and discomfort. These services meet the standards of good medical practice in the local area, are the lowest cost alternative, and are not provided mainly for the convenience of the member or provider. Medically necessary services also include those services defined in any federal or state coverage mandate, Evidence of Coverage or Certificate of Coverage documents, Medical Policy Statements, Provider Manuals, Member Handbooks, and/or other plan policies and procedures.

This policy does not ensure an authorization or reimbursement of services. Please refer to the plan contract (often referred to as the Evidence of Coverage or Certificate of Coverage) for the service(s) referenced herein. Except as otherwise required by law, if there is a conflict between the Reimbursement Policy Statement and the plan contract, then the plan contract will be the controlling document used to make the determination. We may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to services provided in a particular case and we may modify this Policy at any time.

According to the rules of Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of a behavioral health disorder will not be subject to any limitations that are less favorable than the limitations that apply to medical conditions as covered under this policy.

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A. Subject**Temporary Codes****B. Background**

Temporary codes exist in both CPT and HCPCS manuals and are updated throughout the year. T codes (ie, Category III codes) are temporary CPT codes for emerging technologies, services, and procedures, which support data collection to substantiate widespread use and/or provide documentation for the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process. Many of these codes have not been proven medically necessary and are considered to be experimental or investigational based on a lack of peer-reviewed, scientific literature. A variety of temporary HCPCS codes exist. Temporary HCPCS codes may be established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to report drugs, biologicals, devices, and procedures, to identify services and procedures under FDA review or address miscellaneous services, procedures, and supplies. Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) may develop temporary HCPCS codes to report supplies and other products for which a national code has not yet been developed. Temporary HCPCS codes may also be developed by commercial payers to report drugs, services, and supplies. Coverage of these services is under the discretion of local carriers.

C. Definitions

NA

D. Policy

- I. TrueCare considers temporary codes medically necessary when **ALL** the following criteria are met:
 - A. Documentation in the medical record supports the use of the code.
 - B. A more specific code is not available to describe the service/procedure.
 - C. The service provided is within the scope of the member's benefit plan.
- II. TrueCare will use current industry standard procedure codes (HCPCS CPT I and Category II codes) throughout the processing systems. HIPAA Transaction & Code Set Rule requires providers use the procedure code(s) that are valid at the time the service is provided.
- III. Providers must use industry standard code sets and must use specific HCPCS CPT I and Category II codes when available unless otherwise directed through the provider's contract.
- IV. If specific codes are not available, unlisted codes require plan preauthorization.

E. Conditions of Coverage

Reimbursement is dependent on, but not limited to, submitting approved HCPCS and CPT codes along with appropriate modifiers, if applicable. Refer to the individual fee schedule for appropriate codes.

F. Related Policies/Rules
NA

G. Review/Revision History

DATE		ACTION
Date Issued	02/26/2025	New market, approved at Committee.
Date Revised		
Date Effective	07/01/2025	
Date Archived		

H. References

1. American Academy of Professional Coders. What is HCPCS? Accessed December 17, 2024. www.aapc.com
2. *CPT Professional 2025*. American Medical Association; 2025.
3. HCPCS Codes-Temporary Codes for Use with Outpatient Prospective Payment System. Accessed December 17, 2024. www.hcpcs.codes
4. Understanding the HIPAA standard transactions: The HIPAA Transactions and Code Set rule. American Medical Association. Accessed December 17, 2024. www.assets.ama-assn.org