

Practice Enhancement Zoom Meeting

My Most Common Request For 2025...

“How Can I Increase My RVUs?”

Thursday, July 17, 2025

7:30pm Eastern/6:30pm Central

Nick Ulmer, MD CPC FAAFP

Evaluation and Management **Office** Coding (MDM Based on 2 of 3 Components)

| E/M LEVEL, MDM, {time} (99201 deleted, 99211 N/A) | NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY OF <u>PROBLEMS</u> ADDRESSED | AMOUNT AND/OR COMPLEXITY OF <u>DATA</u> TO BE REVIEWED AND ANALYZED (Each unique test, order, or doc. reviewed counts) | <u>RISK</u> OF COMPLICATIONS, and/or MORBIDITY/MORTALITY OF PATIENT MANAGEMENT |
|--|--|---|---|
| 99202 { 15 } 99212 { 10 } Straightfwd MDM | MINIMAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One self-limited or minor prob. | Minimal but usually none | Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing/treatment. |
| 99203 { 30 } 99213 { 20 } Low MDM | LOW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 or more self-limited or minor prob. OR 1 chronic stable illness OR 1 acute, uncomplicated illness/injury OR 1 stable, acute illness | <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 1 of 2 Categories)</p> <p><u>Category 1:</u> Tests and documents (any 2)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review of prior external note(s) from EACH unique source Review results of EACH unique test Order of EACH unique test OR <p><u>Category 2:</u> Assessment requiring an independent historian</p> | Low risk for undergoing additional testing/treatment Consider: OTC drugs, non-contrast imaging, PT/OT, skin bx, minor surgery |
| 99204 { 45 } 99214 { 30 } Moderate MDM | MODERATE NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One or more chronic illnesses with exacerbation, progression, or treatment of side effects 2 or more chronic stable illnesses New prob w/ uncertain prognosis Acute illness with systemic symptoms Acute complicated injury | <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 1 of 3 Categories: Moderate)</p> <p><u>Category 1:</u> Tests, documents, historian (any 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> *Review of prior external note(s) from EACH unique source *Review results of EACH unique test *Order of EACH unique test Assessment requiring an independent historian. OR <p><u>Category 2:</u> Independent interpretation of tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent interpretation of tests performed by another provider (not separately billed) OR <p><u>Category 3:</u> Discussion of management or test interpretation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss mgmt./interpretation of test with another provider (not separately billed) <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 2 of 3 Categories: High)</p> | Moderate risk of morbidity from additional tests/treatment Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rx mgmt., Discussion regarding minor surgery w/ patient or procedure risk factors Discussion regarding elective major surgery w/o risk factors Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health |
| 99205 { 60 } 99215 { 40 } High MDM | HIGH NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 or more chronic illness with severe exacerbation, progression, or treatment side effects Acute/chronic illness that may pose threat to life or bodily function | <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 2 of 3 Categories: High)</p> <p><u>Category 3:</u> Discussion of management or test interpretation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss mgmt./interpretation of test with another provider (not separately billed) | High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment Consider: Drug therapy req. intensive monitoring for toxicity, Decision regarding hospital care (admit/escalate), Decision regarding elective major surgery w/ patient and/or procedure risk factors, Decision to de-escalate care/decide DNR due to poor prog, IV controlled substance use |

E&M **Hospital IP and OBS Initial/Subsequent** Coding (MDM Based on 2 of 3 Components)

| E/M LEVEL, MDM, {time in min.} | NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY OF <u>PROBLEMS</u> ADDRESSED | AMOUNT AND/OR COMPLEXITY OF <u>DATA</u> TO BE REVIEWED AND ANALYZED (Each unique test, order, or doc. reviewed counts) | <u>RISK</u> OF COMPLICATIONS, and/or MORBIDITY/MORTALITY OF PATIENT MANAGEMENT |
|--|---|---|---|
| 99221 {40} 99231 {25} 99234 {45} Low MDM | LOW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 or more self-limited or minor prob. OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 chronic stable illness OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 acute, uncomplicated illness/injury OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 acute, uncomplicated illness/injury requiring IP or OBS level of care OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 stable, acute illness | <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 1 of 2 Categories)</p> <p><u>Category 1:</u> Tests and documents (any 2)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review of prior external note(s) from EACH unique source Review results of EACH unique test Order of EACH unique test OR <p><u>Category 2:</u> Assessment requiring an independent historian</p> | Low risk for undergoing additional testing/treatment Consider: OTC drugs, non-contrast imaging, PT/OT, skin bx, minor surgery |
| 99222 {55} 99232 {35} 99235 {70} Moderate MDM | MODERATE NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One or more chronic illnesses with exacerbation, progression, or treatment of side effects 2 or more chronic stable illnesses New prob w/ uncertain prognosis Acute illness with systemic symptoms Acute complicated injury | <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 1 of 3 Categories: Moderate)</p> <p><u>Category 1:</u> Tests, documents, historian (any 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> *Review of prior external note(s) from EACH unique source *Review results of EACH unique test *Order of EACH unique test Assessment requiring an independent historian. OR <p><u>Category 2:</u> Independent interpretation of tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent interpretation of tests performed by another provider (not separately billed) OR <p><u>Category 3:</u> Discussion of management or test interpretation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss mgmt./interpretation of test with another provider (not separately billed) <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 2 of 3 Categories: High)</p> | Moderate risk of morbidity from additional tests/treatment Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rx mgmt., Discussion regarding minor surgery w/ patient or procedure risk factors Discussion regarding elective major surgery w/o risk factors Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health |
| 99223 {75} 99233 {50} 99236 {85} High MDM | HIGH NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 or more chronic illness with severe exacerbation, progression, or treatment side effects Acute/chronic illness that may pose threat to life or bodily function | | High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment Consider: Drug therapy req. intensive monitoring for toxicity, Decision regarding hospital care (admit/escalate), Decision regarding elective major surgery w/ patient and/or procedure risk factors, Decision to de-escalate care/decide DNR due to poor prog, IV controlled substance use |

Prolonged Service Threshold Crosswalk

| Primary E&M (time-based) | CMS code* | Time Threshold (min)* | CPT code# | Time Threshold (min)# |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Est OV (99215) | +G2212 | 69 | +99417 | 55 |
| New OV (99205) | +G2212 | 89 | +99417 | 75 |
| Initial Hosp. (99223) | +G3016 | 90 | +99418 | 90 |
| Subsequent Hosp. (99233) | +G3016 | 65 | +99418 | 65 |
| Admit/Discharge (99236) | +G3016@ | 110 | +99418 | 100 |
| Init Nursing Facility (99306) | +G3017@@ | 95 | +99418 | 65 |
| Subsequent NF (99310) | +G3017@@ | 85 | +99418 | 60 |
| New Home/residence (99345) | +G3018@@@ | 140 | +99417 | 90 |
| Est Home/residence (99350) | +G3018@@@ | 110 | +99417 | 75 |
| Cognitive Assessment (99483) | +G2212@@@ | 100 | +99417 | 75 |

*Time for primary E/M plus one unit of 15-min add-on code. Table 24, CMS Final Rule, 2023. #AMA CPT 2024 Professional Ed. p30-33.

@ Time on day of care, plus 3d after; @@ Time on day before, day of and 3d after care; @@@ Time on 3 days before, day of, and 7d after care

E&M Emergency Department Coding (MDM Based on 2 of 3 Components)

| E/M LEVEL, MDM 99281: provider not required | NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY OF <u>PROBLEMS</u> ADDRESSED | AMOUNT AND/OR COMPLEXITY OF <u>DATA</u> TO BE REVIEWED AND ANALYZED (Each unique test, order, or doc. reviewed counts) | <u>RISK</u> OF COMPLICATIONS, and/or MORBIDITY/MORTALITY OF PATIENT MANAGEMENT |
|--|--|---|---|
| 99282 Strfwd | MINIMAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One self-limited or minor prob. | Minimal but usually none | Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing/treatment. |
| 99283 Low | LOW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 or more self-limited or minor prob. OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 chronic stable illness OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 acute, uncomplicated illness/injury OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 acute, uncomplicated illness/injury requiring IP or OBS level of care OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 stable, acute illness | <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 1 of 2 Categories)</p> <p><u>Category 1:</u> Tests and documents (any 2)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review of prior external note(s) from EACH unique source Review results of EACH unique test Order of EACH unique test OR <p><u>Category 2:</u> Assessment requiring an independent historian</p> | Low risk for undergoing additional testing/treatment Consider: OTC drugs, non-contrast imaging, PT/OT, skin bx, minor surgery |
| 99284 Moderate | MODERATE NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One or more chronic illnesses with exacerbation, progression, or treatment of side effects 2 or more chronic stable illnesses New prob w/ uncertain prognosis Acute illness with systemic symptoms Acute complicated injury | <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 1 of 3 Categories: Moderate)</p> <p><u>Category 1:</u> Tests, documents, historian (any 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> *Review of prior external note(s) from EACH unique source *Review results of EACH unique test *Order of EACH unique test Assessment requiring an independent historian. OR <p><u>Category 2:</u> Independent interpretation of tests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent interpretation of tests performed by another provider (not separately billed) OR <p><u>Category 3:</u> Discussion of management or test interpretation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss mgmt./interpretation of test with another provider (not separately billed) <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 2 of 3 Categories: High)</p> | Moderate risk of morbidity from additional tests/treatment Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rx mgmt., Discussion regarding minor surgery w/ patient or procedure risk factors Discussion regarding elective major surgery w/o risk factors Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health |
| 99285 High | HIGH NUMBER AND COMPLEXITY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 or more chronic illness with severe exacerbation, progression, or treatment side effects Acute/chronic illness that may pose threat to life or bodily function | <p style="text-align: center;">(Must Meet 2 of 3 Categories: High)</p> | High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment Consider: Drug therapy req. intensive monitoring for toxicity, Decision regarding hospital care (admit/escalate), Decision regarding elective major surgery w/ patient and/or procedure risk factors, Decision to de-escalate care/decide DNR due to poor prog, IV controlled substance use |

Critical Care: CMS and Commercial

CMS/Medicare Guidelines

| Total Duration of Critical Care per CMS | Code(s) |
|---|---|
| Less than 30 minutes | Appropriate E/M Code |
| 30-103 minutes | 99291 x 1 |
| 104-133 minutes | 99291 x 1 and 99292 x 1 |
| 134-163 minutes | 99291 x 1 and 99292 x 2 |
| 164-193 minutes | 99291 x 1 and 99292 x 3 |
| 194 minutes or longer | 99291 x 1 and 99292 as appropriate (see illustrated reporting examples above) |

CPT Guidelines / Commercial Carriers

- 99291 is OK for critical care if over 30 min for both
- For CMS: need to eclipse 104 for added 99292
- For Commercial: +99292 can be billed at 75 minutes

| Total Duration of Critical Care | Code(s) |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Less than 30 minutes | Appropriate E/M Code |
| 30-74 minutes | 99291 x 1 |
| 75-104 minutes | 99291 x 1 and 99292 x 1 |
| 105-134 minutes | 99291 x 1 and 99292 x 2 |
| 135-164 minutes | 99291 x 1 and 99292 x 3 |
| 165-194 minutes | 99291 x 1 and 99292 x 4 |
| 195 minutes or longer | 99291 x 1 and 99292 as appropriate (see illustrated reporting examples above) |

2025 Stars/ACO Quality Metrics (updated 11.2024)

| Measure | Program | | Star Category & Weight | | Thresholds <small>10/23/2024</small> | |
|---|---------|-----|------------------------|--------|---|--------|
| | Stars | ACO | Part C or D? | Weight | 4 Star | 5 Star |
| Care for Older Adults - Functional Status Assessment | ✓ | | C | 1 | 77% | 91% |
| Care for Older Adults - Medication Review | ✓ | | C | 1 | 92% | 98% |
| Care for Older Adults - Pain Screening | ✓ | | C | 1 | 92% | 96% |
| Medication Adherence for Diabetes | ✓ | | D | 3 | 87% | 91% |
| Medication Adherence for Hypertension (RAS) | ✓ | | D | 3 | 90% | 92% |
| Medication Adherence for Cholesterol (Statins) | ✓ | | D | 3 | 89% | 93% |
| TRC: Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge | ✓ | | C | 0.5 | 73% | 87% |
| TRC: Patient Engagement After Inpatient Discharge | ✓ | | C | 0.5 | 63% | 77% |
| Follow-Up After ED Visit for MCC | ✓ | | C | 1 | 60% | 69% |
| Plan All-Cause Readmissions* | ✓ | | C | 3 | 10% | 8% |
| Osteoporosis Management in Women w/ Fracture | ✓ | | C | 1 | 52% | 71% |
| Kidney Health Evaluation for Patients with Diabetes | ✓ | | C | 1 | 52% | 67% |
| Statin Use in Persons with Diabetes | ✓ | | D | 1 | 89% | 93% |
| Eye Exam for Patients with Diabetes | ✓ | | C | 1 | 77% | 83% |
| Glycemic Status Assessment for Patients with Diabetes (<=9%): HbA1c Control | ✓ | ✓ | C | 3 | 84% | 90% |
| Breast Cancer Screening | ✓ | ✓ | C | 1 | 75% | 82% |
| Colorectal Cancer Screening | ✓ | ✓ | C | 1 | 75% | 83% |
| Controlling Blood Pressure | ✓ | ✓ | C | 3 | 80% | 85% |
| Statin Therapy for Cardiovascular Disease | ✓ | ✓ | C | 1 | 88% | 92% |
| Falls: Screening for Future Fall Risk | | ✓ | | | | |
| Depression Screening | | ✓ | | | | |
| Depression Remission at Twelve Months | | ✓ | | | | |
| Influenza Immunization | | ✓ | | | | |
| Tobacco Screening and Cessation Intervention | | ✓ | | | | |