

MSSNY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH INSURANCE
Discussion by email

Committee Evaluation for the following of HOD Resolution:

2019-255 Urgent Care in the Doctor's Office

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York seek payment reform to ensure site neutrality such that urgent, same-day services provided in evenings or on weekends are paid equivalently regardless of the site of service.

At the 2019 House of Delegates, this resolution was referred to MSSNY Council. The council referred the resolution to MSSNY's Committee on Health Insurance. Since there was no scheduled Committee meeting, Committee discussion was conducted via email.

The committee recommends that resolution 255 be amended by addition and deletion.

RESOLVED, that the Medical Society of the State of New York to seek payment reform to ensure site neutrality such that urgent, same-day services provided outside of usual business hours or for emergency care are ~~in evenings or on weekends~~ are paid equivalently regardless of the site of service; **and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the Medical Society of the State of New York advocate for increased payment for office based afterhours CPT Codes.

Many members agree with the point that payment should be made regardless of site of service. However, the Chair asked that insurers be poled to see if they cover afterhours care in the physician's office, since he is aware that Excellus does provide this benefit.

Aetna's policy is as follows:

Here is the most recent policy: Note these are add on codes in addition to the actual service that was provided in the office during nonstandard hours of operation. Aetna pays for After Hours and Weekend Care (CPTs 99050, 99051, 99053, 99058, 99060).

Aetna does not pay for the service when billed alone by a participating provider.

Aetna does not reimburse for the service when:

- o Billed with an emergency visit code or minor procedure
- o Billed with laboratory or radiology services
- o Billed in a facility setting
- o Services Provided Outside of Office Setting (CPTs 99056, 99060)

Aetna does not allow payment for the service if billed with a location other than the physician's office (at the request of the patient).

There are of course specific E&M codes for services provided in a patient's home.

Similar to Aetna, Cigna will pay for a 99050 or 99058 when billed with an eligible E&M office visit code. Cigna's policy is as follows:

file:///C:/Users/rmenally/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/C99GYR2H/R24_Omnibus_Reimbursement_Policy_9.28.17%20update.pdf

Committee Recommendation

The Committee on Health Insurance votes to **ADOPT** Resolution 2019-255 Urgent Care in the Doctor's Office, **AS AMENDED**.

(For Council Approval)

MSSNY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH INSURANCE
Discussion by email

Committee Evaluation for the following of HOD Resolution:

2019-266 Medicare Plan Survey for Patients

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York should conduct anonymous surveys regarding both traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans and analyze the data; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this information should be available to the public so that the enrollees can better understand from the physician's perspective the pros and cons of all the plans prior to the end of the 2019 Medicare enrollment period; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Medical Society of the State of New York through social media and publicity should make the public and the physician community aware of this information so as to better disseminate it.

At the 2019 House of Delegates, this resolution was referred to MSSNY Council. The council referred the resolution to MSSNY's Committee on Health Insurance. Since there was no scheduled Committee meeting, Committee discussion was conducted via email.

Many members stated that they felt the resolution was a bit too vague about who should be surveyed and what they should be asked and what information we would be seeking. As such, the Committee cannot support the resolution and agree with the Reference Committee.

Other members commented on the many other existing educational sites and resources for the Medicare population to gain information on the best plans for their needs. In addition, several members questioned the costs associated with MSSNY staffing and time in developing/creating yet another tool when others exist and have been in use for a long period of time.

Committee Recommendation

The Committee on Health Insurance votes to **NOT ADOPT** Resolution 2019-266 Medicare Plan Survey for Patients.

(For Council Approval)