



Provider communication

General information and system updates

November 27, 2023

Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC) and Pain Management Injections

Applicable to: Mercy Care Complete Care, Mercy Care ACC-RBHA, Mercy Care Long Term Care, Mercy Care DD, Mercy Care DCS CHP, and Mercy Care Advantage

We have recently noticed an increase in resubmissions of monitored anesthesia care (MAC) and pain management injections. This notice is to inform you of our commitment to ensure compliance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines for facet joint interventions in pain management ([CMS LCD L38803](#)) and the CMS NCCI ([National Correct Coding Initiative](#)) policy in Chapter II for Anesthesia Services. In accordance with these regulations, we want to emphasize the importance of proper billing procedures when it comes to monitored anesthesia care (MAC) and injections for pain management.

Claims received for monitored anesthesia care when performed with or on the same day as injections for pain management will be subject to denial. Denials will be issued with Common Adjustment Reason Code (CARC) 97, this service/procedure is included in the payment/allowance for another procedure that has already been adjudicated along with Remittance Advice Remark Code (RARC) N19, Procedure code incidental to primary procedure.

This measure has been in place to ensure that billing for these services aligns with the appropriate CMS guidelines, and to prevent incorrect or duplicate payments.

To avoid any potential issues, we strongly encourage all providers to review their billing practices, code appropriately, and ensure that claims accurately reflect the services provided in accordance with the CMS LCD L38803 and NCCI Chapter II policy for anesthesia services (links above).

We understand the importance of timely and accurate billing, and we are committed to supporting your efforts in this regard. If you have any questions or need further

clarification on billing procedures for facet joint interventions in pain management and monitored anesthesia care, please do not hesitate to reach out us.

We encourage you to reach out to your [Network Management Representative](#) if you are experiencing any issues with this. You can find this [Notice](#) and all other provider notices on our Mercy Care website.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter, and for your continued dedication to providing high-quality care to our patients. We value our partnership and are here to support you in delivering the best possible healthcare services.

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