



physician standby services policy

description of procedure/service

This policy applies to the reimbursement of physician standby services. Code 99360 is used to report physician standby service that is requested by another physician and that involves prolonged physician attendance without direct (face-to-face) patient contact. The physician may not be providing care or services to other patients during this period. This code is not used to report time spent proctoring another physician. It is also not used if the period of standby ends with the performance of a procedure subject to a "surgical package" by the physician who was on standby.

policy

Fallon Community Health Plan (FCHP) does not reimburse separately for physician standby services per Medicare guidelines. Physician standby services are covered as hospital services, not as physician services, because standing by is not a "service" to a patient.

benefits application

- FCHP Direct Care/FCHP Select Care
- FCHP Independent Care
- FCHP Flex Care Direct/Select
- Fallon Senior Plan™
- FCHP MassHealth
- Major Medical
- Bill at Home/Direct Enrollment
- Fallon Preferred Care

coverage and reimbursement criteria

FCHP does not reimburse for physician standby services (99360). Physicians may not bill patients because payment for them is included in payment made to the hospital for other general services necessary to provide quality of care.

preauthorization requirements

Not applicable

billing/coding guidelines

Code 99360 is used to report the total duration of time spent on standby by a physician on a given date. Standby service of less than 30 minutes total duration on a given date is not separately reported. Second and subsequent periods of standby beyond the first 30 minutes may be reported only if a full 30 minutes of standby was provided for each unit of service reported. These reported services are not reimbursable by Fallon Community Health Plan.

place of service

This policy applies to services rendered at all places of service.

policy implementation

Policy number: ADM0007
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