



## Physician Standby Services Payment Policy

### **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.

### **Definitions**

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.

### **Benefits application**

- FCHP Direct Care/FCHP Select Care
- Commonwealth Care
- Companion Care
- FCHP MassHealth
- Major Medical
- Fallon Preferred Care
- Fallon Senior Plan™
- Fallon Senior Plan Preferred
- Summit ElderCare®
- NaviCare<sup>SM</sup>

### **Reimbursement**

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.

### **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 in all settings.

### **Policy history**

Origination date: 10/24/2001  
Previous revision date(s): 08/26/2006  
Connection date & details: May 2010 - moved to new policy template

*This payment policy has been developed to provide information regarding general billing, coding and documentation guidelines for FCHP. Even though this payment policy may indicate that a particular service or supply is considered covered, specific provider contract terms and/or member individual benefit plans may apply and this policy is not a guarantee of payment. FCHP reserves the right to apply this payment policy to all FCHP companies and subsidiaries.*