

AFTER HOURS AND WEEKEND CARE POLICY

Policy Number: ADMINISTRATIVE 168.16 T0

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Related Policies
None

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The services described in Oxford policies are subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of the member's contract or certificate. Unless otherwise stated, Oxford policies do not apply to Medicare Advantage members. Oxford reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify policies as necessary without prior written notice unless otherwise required by Oxford's administrative procedures or applicable state law. The term Oxford includes Oxford Health Plans, LLC and all of its subsidiaries as appropriate for these policies.

Certain policies may not be applicable to Self-Funded members and certain insured products. Refer to the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage to determine whether coverage is provided or if there are any exclusions or benefit limitations applicable to any of these policies. If there is a difference between any policy and the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage, the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage will govern.

UnitedHealthcare may also use tools developed by third parties, such as the MCG™ Care Guidelines, to assist us in administering health benefits. The MCG™ Care Guidelines are intended to be used in connection with the independent professional medical judgment of a qualified health care provider and do not constitute the practice of medicine or medical advice.

APPLICABLE LINES OF BUSINESS/PRODUCTS

This policy applies to Oxford Commercial plan membership.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to services reported using the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (a/k/a CMS-1500) or its electronic equivalent or its successor form. This policy applies to all products and all network and non-network physicians and other qualified health care professionals, including, but not limited to, non-network authorized and percent of charge contract physicians and other qualified health care professionals.

OVERVIEW

After hours or weekend care Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes represent services provided when an individual physician or other health care professional is required to render the services outside of regular posted office hours to treat a patient's urgent illness or condition. This policy outlines when after hours or weekend care codes are considered for separate reimbursement.

REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) considers reimbursement for Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes 99050, 99051, 99053, 99056, 99058, and 99060 to be bundled into payment for other services provided on the same day.

CPT Codes 99053, 99056, 99058, or 99060

Consistent with CMS and with the intent of this policy, Oxford will not separately reimburse CPT codes 99053, 99056, 99058, or 99060.

CPT Code 99050 and 99051

Although CMS considers CPT codes 99050 and 99051 to be bundled into the payment for other services provided on the same day, Oxford will provide additional compensation to participating primary care providers for seeing patients in situations that would otherwise require more costly urgent care or emergency room settings by reimbursing CPT code 99050 in addition to basic service codes and CPT code 99051 in addition to acute care services (not preventive medicine codes).

Oxford will reimburse after hours CPT codes 99050 and 99051 to participating primary care providers when reported with basic services in one of the following CMS non-facility place of service (POS) designations only:

POS Code	Description
03	School
05	Indian health service free-standing facility
07	Tribal 638 free-standing facility
11	Office
49	Independent clinic
50	Federally qualified health center
71	State or local public health clinic
72	Rural health clinic

Oxford will reimburse the following participating primary care providers for CPT codes 99050 and 99051:

- Adolescent medicine, pediatric-adolescent, pediatrics
- Family nurse practitioner, nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, advanced registered nurse practitioner
- Family practice
- General practice
- Geriatric medicine
- Gynecology, obstetrics & gynecology, obstetrics
- Internal medicine
- Certified nurse midwife

APPLICABLE CODES

The following list(s) of procedure and/or diagnosis codes is provided for reference purposes only and may not be all inclusive. Listing of a code in this policy does not imply that the service described by the code is a covered or non-covered health service. Benefit coverage for health services is determined by the member specific benefit plan document and applicable laws that may require coverage for a specific service. The inclusion of a code does not imply any right to reimbursement or guarantee claim payment. Other Policies may apply.

CPT Code	Description
Reimbursable	
99050	Services provided in the office at times other than regularly scheduled office hours, or days when the office is normally closed (e.g., holidays, Saturday or Sunday), in addition to basic service
99051	Service(s) provided in the office during regularly scheduled evening, weekend, or holiday office hours, in addition to basic service
Non-Reimbursable	
99053	Service(s) provided between 10:00 PM and 8:00 AM at 24-hour facility, in addition to basic service
99056	Service(s) typically provided in the office, provided out of the office at request of patient, in addition to basic service
99058	Service(s) provided on an emergency basis in the office, which disrupts other scheduled office services, in addition to basic services
99060	Service(s) provided on an emergency basis, out of the office, which disrupts other scheduled office services, in addition to basic service

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1	Q:	Why doesn't Oxford provide reimbursement for CPT codes 99053, 99056, 99058, or 99060?
	A:	The <i>After Hours and Weekend Care</i> policy is intended to reimburse participating primary care providers for services that are outside their normal office routines as an alternative to more costly emergency room or urgent care center services. Reimbursement for CPT codes 99053, 99056, 99058, or 99060 would not accomplish this purpose and are not reimbursed by CMS.
2	Q:	When will Oxford provide reimbursement for CPT code 99050?
	A:	Oxford will provide reimbursement for CPT code 99050 during times other than regularly scheduled office hours, or days when the office is normally closed (e.g., holidays, Saturday, or Sunday), in addition to basic services.
3	Q:	When will Oxford provide reimbursement for CPT code 99051?
	A:	Oxford will provide reimbursement for CPT code 99051 during regularly scheduled evening, weekend, or holiday office hours, in addition to acute care services (not preventive medicine services).

REFERENCES

The foregoing Oxford policy has been adapted from an existing UnitedHealthcare national policy that was researched, developed and approved by UnitedHealthcare Reimbursement Policy Oversight Committee. [2018R0044B]

American Medical Association, Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) and associated publications and services.
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) publications.

POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

Date	Action/Description
10/01/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised reimbursement guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Removed language indicating Oxford will not separately reimburse CPT code 99051 ○ Added language to indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Although CMS considers CPT code 99051 to be bundled into the payment for other services provided on the same day, Oxford will provide additional compensation to participating primary care providers for seeing patients in situations that would otherwise require more costly urgent care or emergency room settings by reimbursing CPT code 99051 in addition to acute care services (not preventive medicine codes) ▪ Oxford will reimburse after hours CPT code 99051 to participating primary care providers when reported with basic services in one of the [listed] CMS non-facility place of service (POS) designations ▪ Oxford will reimburse the [listed] participating primary care providers for CPT code 99051 • Revised list of reimbursable CPT codes; added 99051 • Updated Questions and Answers (Q&A): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Modified Q&A#1 pertaining to non-reimbursable CPT codes; removed reference to CPT code 99051 ○ Added Q&A#2 pertaining to reimbursement of CPT code 99050 ○ Added Q&A#3 pertaining to reimbursement of CPT code 99051 • Archived previous policy version ADMINISTRATIVE 168.15 T0