14 - Claims

For several years, Health Plan of Nevada (HPN) has been developing and refining a comprehensive policy on medical claim coding and adjudication. The goal of the policy is to fairly and consistently pay claims. HPN’s claims processing time frames have been defined based upon Nevada State Statutes and Federal Regulations.

14.1 Claims Adjudication and Payment

For levels of care and up-to-date procedural coding, HPN relies upon the codes in the latest edition of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT). The Resource Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) along with other guidelines are used for the adjudication of claims. The following guidelines will explain how certain levels of service are evaluated to pay correctly for care provided to HPN members:

Office Visits- Code 99211: for evaluation and management of established patient that may not require the presence of a physician. Typically 5 minutes are spent performing or supervising these services.

- blood pressure determination for adequacy of control

Office Visits- Codes 99201, 99212: Usually the presenting problem(s) are self-limited or minor. Physicians typically spend 10 minutes face to face with patient and/or family. An established patient requires two of the three components and a new patient requires all three components.

- A problem focused history
- A problem focused examination
- Straightforward medical decision making

Office Visits- Codes 99202, 99213: Usually the presenting problem(s) are of low to moderate severity. Physicians typically spend 15 minutes, face to face with an established patient and/or family and 20 minutes, face to face, with a new patient and/or family. An established patient requires two of the three components and a new patient requires all three components.

- An expanded problem focused history
- An expanded problem focused examination
- Straightforward medical decision making (New Patient)
- Medical decision making of low complexity (Est. Patient)

Office Visits- Codes 99203: Usually the presenting problem(s) are of moderate severity. Physicians typically spend 30 minutes face to face with a new patient and/or family. For new patients, all three components must be met.

- A detailed History
- A detailed Examination
- Medical decision making of low complexity
Office or Other Outpatient Consultations – Consult Code 99241: Usually the presenting problem(s) are self-limited or minor. Physicians typically spend 15 minutes face to face with patient and/or family. **For new or established patients all three components must be met.**

- A problem focused history
- A problem focused examination
- Straightforward medical decision making

Office or Other Outpatient Consultations – Consult Code 99242: Usually the presenting problem(s) are of low severity. Physicians typically spend 30 minutes face to face with patient and/or family. **For new or established patients all three components must be met.**

- An expanded problem focused history
- An expanded problem focused examination
- Straightforward medical decision making

Office or Other Outpatient Consultations – Consult Code 99243: Usually the presenting problem(s) are of moderate severity. Physicians typically spend 40 minutes face to face with patient and/or family. **For new or established patients all three components must be met.**

- A detailed history
- A detailed examination
- Medical decision making of low complexity

**Medical Records Required – Codes 99204, 99214, 99205, 99215, 99244, 99245**
If you use these billing codes, HPN requires a copy of the chart/progress note to accompany the billing. The issue of confidentiality is strictly maintained by having only medical personnel review the chart/progress note.

**Office Visits – Code 99204:** Usually the presenting problem(s) are of moderate to high severity. Physicians typically spend 45 minutes, face to face, with a new patient and/or family; which require these three components.

- A comprehensive history
- A comprehensive examination; and
- Medical decision making of moderate complexity

**Office Visits – Code 99214:** Usually the presenting problem(s) are of moderate to high severity. Physicians typically spend 25 minutes, face to face, with an established patient and/or family. **An established patient requires two of the three components.**

- A detailed History
- A detailed Examination
- Medical decision making of moderate complexity

**Office Visits – Code 99205, 99215:** Usually the presenting problem(s) are of moderate to high severity. Physicians typically spend 40 minutes, face to face, with an established patient and/or family; 60 minutes face to face with a new patient and/or family. **An established patient requires two of the three components and a new patient requires all three components.**
- A comprehensive history
- A comprehensive examination
- Medical decision making of high complexity

**Office or Other Outpatient Consultations – Consult Code 99244:** Usually the presenting problem(s) are of moderate severity. Physicians typically spend 60 minutes face to face with patient and/or family. **For new or established patients all three components must be met.**

- An comprehensive history
- An comprehensive examination
- Medical decision making of moderate complexity

**Office or Other Outpatient Consultations – Consult Code 99245:** Usually the presenting problem(s) are of moderate to high severity. Physicians typically spend 80 minutes face to face with patient and/or family. **For new or established patients all three components must be met.**

- An comprehensive history
- An comprehensive examination
- Medical decision making of moderate complexity

As outlined above, **if a chart/progress note is required with the billing but one is not included by the physician’s office, the claim will be coded to the appropriate level of service.** The claim can be re-submitted for consideration, send a copy of the EOP together with the appropriate chart/progress note and indicate “resubmission” on the EOP.

HPN recognizes that claim problems occur from time to time. We appreciate our physicians and providers bringing them to our attention. We handle these claims as expeditiously as we can. Reasonable procedural guidelines are established to manage them fairly.

**Dental Claims Guidelines**

Health Plan of Nevada (HPN) applies the following guidelines for claim processing

- Periodontal charting is required for periodontal scaling and root planning, as well as periodontal surgeries. If charting is not available, duplicate x-rays can be submitted.
- Duplicate x-rays are required for crowns as well as documentation regarding whether the placement is an initial or a replacement including the age of the existing crown(s).
- Duplicate x-rays and a narrative are required for non-cosmetic inlays and onlays when covered.
- Duplicate x-rays are required for bridges, as well as documentation regarding whether the placement is an initial or a replacement including the age of the existing bridge(s).
- Extraction dates or treatment plan for extractions are required for dentures and partials, as well as documentation regarding whether the placement is an initial or a replacement including the age of the existing denture/partial.

**14.2 Risk Adjustment Data**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) requires risk adjustment for commercial small group and individual benefit plans. HHS utilizes Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCCs) to calculate an annual patient risk score that represents the specific patient’s disease burden. Every year, HHS requires information about the demographic and health of our members. Diagnoses do not carry forward to the following year and must be assessed and reported every year.
The risk adjustment data you give us, including clinical documentation and diagnosis codes, must be accurate and complete. It is critical for you to refer to the ICD-10-CM coding guide to code claims accurately. To comply with risk adjustment guidelines, specific ICD-10-CM codes are required.

- Medical records must support all conditions coded on the claims or encounters you submit using clear, complete and specific language.
- Code all conditions that co-exist at the time of the member visit and require or affect member care, treatment or management.
- Never use a diagnosis code for a “probable” or “questionable” diagnosis. Code only to the highest degree of certainty for the encounter/visit. Include information such as symptoms, signs, abnormal test results and/or other reasons for the visit.
- Specify whether conditions are chronic or acute in the medical record and in coding. Only choose diagnosis code(s) that fully describe the member’s condition and pertinent history at the time of the visit. Do not code conditions that no longer exist.
- Carry the diagnosis code all the way through to the correct digit for specificity. For example, do not use a three-digit code if a five-digit code more accurately describes the member’s condition.
- Check the diagnosis code against the member’s gender.
- Sign chart entries with credentials.
- All claims and/or encounters submitted to us for risk adjustment consideration are subject to audit. Audits may come from HHS, or us, where we may select certain medical records to review to determine if the documentation and coding are complete and accurate. Please give us any requested medical records quickly. Please provide all available medical documentation for the services rendered to the member.
- Notify us immediately about any diagnostic data you have submitted to us that you later determine may be erroneous.

14.3 Billing Procedures

A managed system of health care necessitates that all providers be accountable for both the treatment dispensed to the patient and the charges billed to the payer for this treatment.

Plan Providers agree to accept the contracted amount paid by Health Plan of Nevada (HPN) as payment in full. The patient may be billed for the following:
- co-payment
- deductible
- coinsurance
- non-covered services - as defined in the member’s Evidence of Coverage. All such services must be fully explained to members prior to providing the services.

Billings for some members may involve coordination of benefits. For example:
If the member is covered as a dependent under HPN and an employee under other group coverage, the other group coverage has primary responsibility for the costs of services.

Dependent children carried on two plans may be primarily covered by either HPN or the other group coverage.

When a member is injured through the actions of another person (third party) and is entitled to compensation from that third party, members are asked to assign HPN any compensation for which
they are entitled from the third party. This will allow HPN to seek reimbursement from the third party for claims it paid on behalf of the member.

Please follow these simple steps when billing HPN:
- Verify eligibility by using one of the following three options:
  - Calling the Member Services Department. Please refer to Section 3 Frequently Called Numbers for the appropriate Member Services Department phone number.
  - Online Provider Center – online eligibility system. (For information or access to the Online Provider Center, please refer to section 7.4)
  - Interactive Voice Response HPN (702) 242-7724 or (800) 768-2808
- Check the back of the member’s ID card for claim and billing information.
- Note the member number listed on the HPN ID card on the claim.
- Collect the applicable co-payment, deductible and/or coinsurance from the member. Check with the Member Services Department on any questions about the member’s coverage.
- Use industry standard EDI transactions or claim forms to bill HPN making sure to include the information below. (Clean Claim elements can be found at the end of this section)
  1. Patient’s name
  2. Date of Birth
  3. Member number(s)
  4. Other insurance information
  5. Diagnosis(es) and ICD-10 code(s)
  6. Date(s) of service
  7. Services provided, CPT code(s), and appropriate modifiers and units
  8. Copy of chart/progress note*
  9. Amount charged
  10. Provider’s signature and tax ID number
  11. National Provider Identification Number (NPI)
- *All billings for an extended or comprehensive level of service require a chart/progress note. If the documentation does not substantiate the code used, the claim will be coded to the appropriate level of service. The claim can be reconsidered by sending a copy of the EOP together with the additional chart/progress notes and indicate “resubmission” on the EOP.
- Submit claims(s) to:
  Health Plan of Nevada, Inc.
  Attention: Claims
  P. O. Box 15645
  Las Vegas, NV 89114-5645

14.4 Dental Predetermination of Benefits

Dental predetermination of benefits is recommended for the treatment of any dental disease, defect, or injury. Predetermination of benefits is processed at the claim level and should be submitted to the claims billing address. Predetermination is not mandatory and benefits are not reduced as a result of predetermination not being submitted.

To submit a predetermination of benefits, prepare a standard claim form using American Dental Association (ADA) codes and submit the predetermination to:
**#13. Claim Date**

- **Date of Service:** [Enter the date of service.]
- **Date of Claim:** [Enter the date of claim.]

**#14. Healthcare Provider Information**

- **Name:** [Enter the name of the healthcare provider.]
- **Address:** [Enter the address of the healthcare provider.]
- **Phone Number:** [Enter the phone number of the healthcare provider.]
- **NPI:** [Enter the NPI number of the healthcare provider.]

**#15. Account Information**

- **Account Number:** [Enter the account number.]
- **Account Name:** [Enter the account name.]

**#16. Patient Information**

- **Name:** [Enter the patient's name.]
- **Address:** [Enter the patient's address.]
- **Phone Number:** [Enter the patient's phone number.]
- **Relationship to Insured:** [Enter the relationship to insured.]

**#17. Benefits Information**

- **Claim Type:** [Enter the claim type.]
- **Benefit Code:** [Enter the benefit code.]

**#18. Claim Details**

- **Claim Description:** [Enter the claim description.]
- **Explanation of Benefits (EOB):** [Enter the explanation of benefits.]

**#19. Signature**

- **Billing Person:** [Enter the billing person's signature.]
- **Address:** [Enter the address.]
- **Phone Number:** [Enter the phone number.]
- **NPI:** [Enter the NPI number.]
14.5 National Provider Identifier (NPI)

The National Provider Identifier (NPI) is a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Administrative Simplification Standard. The NPI is a unique identification number for covered health care providers. Covered health care providers and all health plans and health care clearinghouses use the NPIs in the administrative and financial transactions adopted under HIPAA. A valid NPI is required on all covered claims (paper and electronic) in addition to the TIN.

What is the NPI – National Provider Identifier?

- The NPI is a 10-digit, intelligence free numeric identifier (10 digit number). Intelligence free means that the numbers do not carry information about health care providers, such as the state they practice or their provider type or specialization.
- The NPI replaces health care provider identifiers in use today in HIPPA transactions. Those numbers include Medicare legacy IDs (UPIN, OSCAR, PIN and National Supplier Clearinghouse or NSC).
- The provider’s NPI does not change and remains with the provider regardless of job or location.

For more information regarding NPI you can contact CMS at (800) 465-3203, Provider Services at (702)-242-7088 or (800) 745-7065, or information is available on a CMS web page: https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Administrative-Simplification/NationalProvIdentStand/

14.6 Timely Filing Period

Commercial claims for all covered services shall be submitted to the Health Plan within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of service but, in any event, no later than ninety (90) calendar days following the date of service. Claims which are not submitted within this timely filing period or with incomplete or inaccurate information shall not be honored for payment.

Medicaid claims should be submitted within 30 calendar days from the date of service, but, in any event, no later than 180 calendar days after the date of service. Claims not submitted within these timely filing periods will not be honored for payment. Timely filing is always based on date of service or date of eligibility. Re-considerations or resubmission or any follow-up must be clearly identified and submitted within 30 calendar days from the date of the original determination. For a Reconsideration request, the provider is responsible to provide additional medical information (e.g., intensity of service, severity of illness, risk factors) that might not have been submitted with the original/initial request that supports the level of care/services requested.

Submit claims(s) to:

Health Plan of Nevada, Inc.
Attention: Claims Reconsideration
P. O. Box 15645
Las Vegas, NV 89114-5645

You will be notified of any denials of requested covered services. You may request an appeal by the HPN Medical Director and/or the peer review committee.
14.7 Coordination of Benefits

When HPN is the secondary insurance payer, claims are allowed up to 6 months beyond the timely filing period. This allows for up to 9 months for secondary claims to process.

14.8 Imaging, Batch Processing, Claims Processing

All claims are scanned into the work flow system within 7-8 business days of receipt. To assist in the scanning process of your claim, please avoid the following:

- light images
- red ink
- printing alignment where the print is on the line
- highlighting on the claim
- font sizes smaller than 10 pt.

They make the image illegible and may result in the claim being delayed or returned. Images of the claims are keyed into our work flow system. The claims are then automatically adjudicated nightly through batch processing on our claims payment system. Pended claims are reviewed using the image, not the paper claim.

The system improves our overall efficiency and turnaround time, as well as enables all departments within HPN to provide our customers with superior service.

14.9 Altered Claim Images

Federal requirements regarding fraud review have prompted the need for restrictions regarding altered claim images. All claim images received which have an apparent alteration (i.e. handwritten dates of service, charges, diagnosis, CPT code information, and/or information crossed out, etc.) will be returned to the provider’s office with a cover letter stating,

“This claim cannot be processed for payment. It is apparent that some of the information on the claim form has been altered. Pursuant to company policy we cannot accept altered claim forms or photocopies of claim forms. All claims must be submitted on the correct form with clean unaltered information.”

This process allows Health Plan of Nevada to follow industry standard guidelines with regard to altered claim images and ensures that HPN maintains compliance with Federal Regulations.

14.10 Electronic Claims Submission

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996 included administrative simplification provisions requiring standards be adopted for electronic health care transactions.

The transaction with the most discussion has been electronic claim submission. Any claim submitted by a provider to a health plan must be in the HIPAA approved ANSI 837 format as of October 16, 2003. Many plans and providers have opted to use intermediaries to meet this deadline.
Health Plan of Nevada has chosen to use intermediaries for the receipt of electronic claims data. Health Plan of Nevada has completed compliance testing and is able to receive HIPAA compliant electronic claims from the following clearinghouse:

OptumInsight  
1755 Telstar Drive, #400  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
(800) 341-6141

For Electronic Claims Submission, please use the following Payor ID’s:

Claims – Payor ID 76342  
Encounter Data – Payor ID 76343

Although the Health Plan has one contracted clearinghouse, you may coordinate with your clearinghouse to transmit your electronic claims and encounter data to OptumInsight.

HPN will continue to receive paper claims. If an electronic claim is received which requires an attachment, the claim will be adjudicated without the attachment and the explanation of payment will need to be submitted with the attachment for reconsideration of the claim. Please contact us to discuss options for submitting attachments with your electronic claims.

14.11 Electronic Explanation of Payment (EOP) Requests

Explanations of Payments (EOP’s) are generated each time a claim or encounter is processed by the Health Plan. EOP’s contain detailed information such as claim adjudication, processed date and check numbers, as applicable.

An electronic copy of the EOP may be obtained through the online provider center, which offers providers the opportunity to view the EOP on line. For more information regarding the online provider center see Section 7.4.

Explanation of Payments can be printed by logging into your online provider center account. If you do not have an online provider center account, please go to www.myaysonline.com and click on “Create an Account” and follow the instructions

For additional information or questions please contact your Provider Advocate.

14.12 Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT’s)

HPN/SHL offers free electronic funds transfer (EFT) through InstaMed, a new EFT/ERA Provider. InstaMed offers the free Payer Payments solution to deliver your payments as electronic remittance advice (ERA) and electronic funds transfer (EFT). To receive your HPN and SHL payments as free ERA/EFT, please register at www.instamed.com/eraeft.

You may also contact InstaMed directly at (866) 945-7990 or connect@instamed.com with any questions.
14.13 HIPAA 5010

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) mandated that all physicians/hospitals and payers (including clearinghouses and health plans) exchange key business transactional data using the HIPAA 5010.

5010 is the newest version of the HIPAA electronic transaction standards. The 5010 standards include improvements in health care transactions such as structural, scope and overview of the transaction (also known as front matter), technical and data content such as improved eligibility responses and better search options. The 5010 standards are more specific in requiring the data that is needed, collected and transmitted in a transaction. The new claims transactions standard contains significant improvements for reporting of clinical data, by requiring diagnosis codes and procedure codes to be captured based on principle diagnosis, admitting diagnosis, external cause of injury and patient reason for visit codes. These distinctions are intended to improve the understanding of clinical data and to improve monitoring of mortality rates for certain illnesses, outcomes for specific treatment options, hospital lengths of stay for certain conditions, and clinical reasons for patients’ decisions to seek hospital care.

CMS requires that all 5010 data elements are included in each claim submission, therefore HPN will not accept 5010 claim submissions if data elements are missing.

To learn more about the 5010 mandate please visit the government website at: https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/HIPAA-Administrative-Simplification/Versions5010andD0/Version_5010.html

The 5010 requirements apply to all types of claims and claim related transactions, including claims that are reimbursed through capitated payment arrangements or claims from delegated entities.

14.14 Claim Reconsideration Process

A Claim Reconsideration request is typically the quickest way to address any concern you have with how we processed your claim. With a Claim Reconsideration request, we review whether a claim was paid correctly and confirm your contract is set up correctly in our system.

The most efficient way to submit a single claim reconsideration request is through our online provider center (formerly @YourService).

After you log into the online provider center:

- Select Claim Search
- Then choose the “Search by” Function (Claim ID, Member ID, Member Name or Claim Status) and enter the appropriate information and click on “Submit”
- Next, click on the claim number (which will be highlighted blue) of the claim you wish to have reconsidered.
- Once you are on the “Claims Detail” page, click on Submit Reconsideration Request

This is where you would attach any supporting documents needed (records, billing statements, etc.), as well as make note of what you are appealing with the claim. Please provide a detailed explanation as to why you are submitting a reconsideration request. In order to attach more
documents, you would click “Add another file…”. You will **NOT** need to submit a Claims Reconsideration Form.

After Clicking submit you’ll get a confirmation that your request has been submitted successfully.

Currently the online provider center **does not** accept project requests or capitated claim reconsideration requests. Please continue to submit your claims project request spreadsheets with 20 or more claims and your capitated claim reconsideration requests to PRI@sierrahealth.com.

Health Plan of Nevada has developed a Quick Reference Guide for our Providers to assist you in the reconsideration process when submitting a reconsideration by mail, phone or project request by email. Please visit our website at [www.healthplanofnevada.com/Provider](http://www.healthplanofnevada.com/Provider). Click on “I need help with”, then “Submit/Appeal a Claim” to access the Quick Reference Guide.

The Quick Reference Guide will outline instructions for submitting Claim Reconsideration requests using the 3 following methods.

**Mail:** Using the Claim Reconsideration form you can submit a claims reconsideration request and include all pertinent documentation for reconsideration. The claim reconsideration form is available for download on [www.healthplanofnevada.com/provider](http://www.healthplanofnevada.com/provider), “I need help with” then “Frequently Used Forms” or in the Frequently Used Forms, Section 25.7, of this summary guide.

**Telephone:** You can call Member Services to request an adjustment for a claim that does not require written documentation. For HPN members please call **(800) 962-8074**.

**Claims Project:** If you have a request involving 20 or more paid or denied claims, you may send a claims project request to us. The project may be sent via secure email to PRI@sierrahealth.com. An Excel template is also available for download on [www.healthplanofnevada.com/Provider](http://www.healthplanofnevada.com/Provider). Click on “I need help with”, then “Submit/Appeal a Claim”. Please follow the instructions in the Claims Quick Reference Guide.

**Please allow 30 days from the received date of the claims reconsideration for review.**

If you have any questions, please contact Provider Services at 702-242-7088 or 1-800-745-7065, Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM PST.
14.15 Filing a Provider Dispute for a Medicaid and Nevada CheckUp Claim

Filing a Provider Claim Reconsideration

A provider has the right to file a reconsideration when a disagreement occurs regarding the claims adjudication process. Additionally, appeal rights are offered after the provider has completed two (2) claim reconsideration processes. If the second claim reconsideration process is not favorable, the provider is provided with their appeal rights and an appeal may be followed as outlined in the section Filing a Provider Appeal for a Claim.

An easy way to remember the claim reconsideration process is the “3 Step Rule”. The following is an example of a claim denial that demonstrates the claims reconsideration.

1. Claim submission and claim denied for payment (Step 1 of 3)
2. Provider must submit a second Claim Reconsideration including EOP with an explanation for the dispute (Step 2 of 3). Provider is notified of decision by EOP. Please see Section 14.13 for the claim reconsideration process.
3. Provider submits Claim Reconsideration requesting further review and includes any additional information and/or reiterates their reasons for dispute. Decision remains unchanged. Provider is informed of their appeal rights via EOP (Step 3 of 3)

After completing the claims reconsideration process above if the provider is not satisfied with the outcome of the claims reconsideration process an appeal may be filed. See Filing a Provider Appeal for a Claim below for the appeal process.

For claim reconsiderations, please submit your EOP with an explanation for the dispute and any supporting documentation to:

HPN
ATTN: Claim Reconsiderations
P.O. Box 15645
Las Vegas, Nevada 89114-5645

Filing a Provider Appeal for a Claim

Providers have the right to appeal a claim that has been denied. Claim-related appeals should be submitted to the HPN Customer Response and Resolution (CR&R) Department listed below. An appeal can be filed by sending a copy of the Explanation of Payment (EOP) along with the reason the claim is being appealed. Appeals must be post marked no later than 30 calendar days from the date on the EOP listing the claim as denied. If your appeal is rejected (e.g., for incomplete information), there is no extension to the original 30 calendar days. Appeal requests for subsequent same service claim submissions will not be considered. That is, if a provider resubmits a claim that has already been denied and another denial is received, the provider does not have another 30 day window in which to submit an appeal. Such appeal requests will be rejected. The process is outlined below:

1. Provider submits appeal to the address listed below within 30 calendar days from the date on the EOP listing the claim as denied
2. The Health Plan acknowledges appeal request in writing within 3 calendar days.
3. The Health Plan renders decision on appeal and notifies provider in writing of decision within 30 days. The Health Plan’s decision is final.
For appeals, please submit your written request explaining your reasons for dispute and any supporting documentation to:

HPN
ATTN: CR&R/Appeals
P.O. Box 14865
Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

If you have any questions regarding claims payment, please contact the Member Services department at (800) 962-8074.

14.16 Clean Claim Elements

NAC 686A.280 Definitions. (NRS 679B.130, 686A.015) As used in NAC 686A.280 to 686A.306, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NAC 686A.282, 686A.284 and 686A.286 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002)

NAC 686A.282 “Clean claim” defined. (NRS 679B.130, 686A.015) A “clean claim” means a claim:

1. That contains the information required to be included for the applicable use of a form prescribed in NAC 686A.288; and

2. For which any additional information that has been requested pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 683A.0879, 689A.410, 689B.255, 689C.485, 695B.2505 or 695C.185 because of any particular or unusual circumstances that would have impeded the payer from paying the claim has been received.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002; A by R026-12, 9-14-2012)

NAC 686A.284 “Health care practitioner” defined. (NRS 679B.130, 686A.015) “Health care practitioner” means a person licensed to practice one of the health professions regulated by title 54 of NRS.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002)

NAC 686A.286 “Payer” defined. (NRS 679B.130, 686A.015) “Payer” includes administrators, individual health insurers, group health insurers, nonprofit hospitals, medical and dental service corporations and health maintenance organizations who pay claims under any contract for health insurance.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002)

NAC 686A.288 Forms for submission of claims. (NRS 679B.130, 679B.138, 686A.015)

1. The payer of a claim under a contract for health insurance:

   (a) Shall accept a claim submitted on a form that:

   (1) Has been approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services for the filing of a claim under a contract for health insurance; and

   (2) Contains the information necessary to constitute a clean claim.

   (b) Shall not require the completion of any other form for the purpose of processing the claim.

2. For the purposes of this section, a “form that has been approved by the United States Department of Health and Human Services” means:

   (a) For claims submitted by a hospital or other institutional provider, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Form CMS-1450, which is commonly referred to as UB-04, or its successor form; and
(b) For claims submitted by a health care practitioner or other person entitled to reimbursement, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Form CMS-1500, or its successor form.

3. Form CMS-1450, also known as the UB-04 claim form, published by the National Uniform Billing Committee, is available from the American Hospital Association on the Internet at http://aha.org/, by telephone at (800) 242-2626, or by mail at 155 North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606, at the price of $46 for members and $56 for nonmembers. Copies of the form may also be available through office supply stores.

4. Form CMS-1500, published by the National Uniform Claim Committee, is available from the United States Government Printing Office on the Internet website http://bookstore.gpo.gov, by mail at P.O. Box 979050, St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000, or by toll-free telephone at (866) 512-1800, at the price of $29. Copies of the form may also be available through local printing companies and office supply stores.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002; A by R026-12, 9-14-2012)

NAC 686A.290 Commencement of time for adjudication and payment of claims. (NRS 679B.130, 686A.015) The time for a payer to adjudicate and pay claims pursuant to NRS 683A.0879, 689A.410, 689B.255, 689C.485, 695B.2505 and 695C.185 begins when the payer receives a clean claim.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002)

NAC 686A.302 Claim by hospital or other institutional provider: Prohibited use of field; optional inclusion of additional data. (NRS 679B.130, 679B.138, 686A.015)

1. A payer shall not use or require a hospital or other institutional provider to use any field for purposes that are inconsistent with the data required for the submission of a clean claim, or in addition to the applicable standard code set.

2. A hospital or other institutional provider may elect to include data in addition to the data required for the submission of a clean claim.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002; A by R026-12, 9-14-2012)

NAC 686A.303 Coverage for dental procedures for children. (NRS 679B.130, 686A.015)

1. A policy or contract of health insurance issued pursuant to chapter 689A, 689B, 689C, 695B or 695C of NRS which is delivered or issued for delivery in this State and which provides coverage for medically required hospital services must not deny coverage for a dependent child covered by that policy or contract who is referred by a dentist to a hospital, a surgical center for ambulatory patients, an independent center for emergency medical care or a rural clinic, licensed pursuant to chapter 449 of NRS, for general anesthesia and associated care and is being referred because, in the opinion of the dentist, the child:

(a) Has a physical, mental or medically compromising condition;

(b) Has dental needs for which local anesthesia is ineffective because of an acute infection, an anatomic anomaly or an allergy;

(c) Is extremely uncooperative, unmanageable or anxious; or

(d) Has sustained extensive orofacial and dental trauma to a degree that would require unconscious sedation.

2. An insurer may:

(a) Require prior authorization for the provision of general anesthesia and for hospitalization or the use of a surgical center for ambulatory patients for dental procedures in the same manner that the insurer requires prior authorization for hospitalization for the provision of general anesthesia for other diseases or conditions covered by the policy or contract of health insurance;

(b) Require that the benefits paid be adjusted according to the policy or contract of health insurance if the services are rendered by a provider who is not designated by or associated with the insurer, if applicable; and
(c) Restrict coverage to include only general anesthesia provided during procedures performed by:
   (1) A qualified specialist in pediatric dentistry;
   (2) A dentist who is qualified, by virtue of education, in a recognized dental specialty for which hospital privileges are granted; or
   (3) A dentist who is certified by a hospital, by virtue of completion of an accredited program of postgraduate hospital training, and is granted hospital privileges.

3. The failure of an insurer to comply with the provisions of this section constitutes an unfair trade practice pursuant to NRS 686A.170.

4. A policy or contract of health insurance subject to the provisions of this section that is delivered, issued for delivery or renewed on or after April 24, 2003, has the legal effect of including the coverage required by this section, and any provision of such a policy or contract that conflicts with the provisions of this section is void.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R088-02, eff. 4-24-2003)

NAC 686A.304 Processing of claims: Duties of payer; date of receipt of claim. (NRS 679B.130, 679B.136, 679B.138, 686A.015)

1. Each payer shall establish a tracking system to monitor the timeliness of the payer’s processing of a claim.

2. Each payer shall:
   (a) Maintain a written or electronic record of the date of receipt of a claim;
   (b) For receipt of a written claim, date-stamp the claim with the date received; and
   (c) For receipt of an electronic claim, assign the document a batch number that includes the date received.

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, a claim is deemed to have been received by a payer on the date of receipt of the claim stated in the written or electronic record required pursuant to subsection 2.

4. A payer shall provide, within 20 working days after a request by a health care practitioner, hospital, institutional provider or person entitled to reimbursement, verification of the date of receipt of a claim as stated in the written or electronic record pursuant to subsection 2, in:
   (a) Electronic form, if the request was for electronic verification; or
   (b) Written form, including microfilm, if the request was for written verification.

5. A claim shall be deemed received by a payer:
   (a) Five working days after the date the health care practitioner, hospital, institutional provider or person entitled to reimbursement placed the claim in the United States mail, if the health care practitioner, hospital, institutional provider or person entitled to reimbursement possesses the receipt of mailing the claim; or
   (b) On the date the receipt of the claim is recorded by a courier, if the claim was delivered by a courier.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002)

NAC 686A.306 Proof of compliance by payer. (NRS 679B.130, 679B.136, 679B.138, 686A.015) The Commissioner, when deemed appropriate, will require a payer to report substantial compliance with the provisions of NAC 686A.280 to 686A.306, inclusive. Proof that claims are being paid by a payer within the specified limits includes, without limitation, records demonstrating that a tracking system required by NAC 686A.304 has been developed and implemented.

(Added to NAC by Comm’r of Insurance by R175-01, eff. 5-23-2002; A by R129-03, 4-16-2004)