Reimbursement Policy designation of Professional or Facility application is respective to how the provider is contracted with The Plan. Provider contractual agreement terms in direct conflict with this Reimbursement Policy may supersede this Policy’s direction and regional applicability.

PURPOSE:

This policy prohibits pass-through billing/purchased services. Pass-through billing/purchased services occurs when an ordering provider requests and bills for services not performed by the ordering physician, practitioner, or medical group.

The patient’s physician may perform the professional component (interpretation), however, that physician may also purchase the technical component from another entity. The provider that performs the professional services, including the professional component (interpretation) of diagnostic tests, must always report them. A provider may not report a professional service that is performed by another entity.

REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES:

Providers will not bill, charge, or seek payment for amounts related to the provision of pass-through billing/purchased services from The Plan’s members.

Modifier 90: Reference (Outside) Laboratory

Reimbursement for laboratory services ordered by the physician, practitioner, or medical group not performed by the ordering provider are not eligible.
Practitioners should bill only for the component of the laboratory service they perform in their offices and should refer laboratory services that cannot be performed in their office to laboratories that participate with The Plan. Independent laboratories should separately bill The Plan for any clinical lab tests referred to them by practitioners. Practitioners should not report modifier 90 for services performed by an outside laboratory.

Only independent labs should use modifier 90 when they send out certain tests to a reference lab. The name, address, and CLIA number of both the referring and reference laboratories must be included on the claim.

REFERENCES:


RELATED HIGHMARK POLICIES:

Refer to the following Medical Policies for additional information:

- Commercial Medical Policy Z-16: Purchased Services- Archived