

| REIMBURSEMENT POLICY | |
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| Policy Name: | Use of CMS NCD and LCD |
| Policy Number: | PI-007 |
| Original Effective Date: | 02/20/2018 |
| Annual Approval Date: | 01/01/2022 |
| Products: | Pennsylvania HealthChoices Medical Assistance |

Disclaimer

Highmark Wholecare medical claims payment and prior-authorization policy is a reference resource regarding payment and coverage for the services described. This policy does not constitute medical advice and is not intended to govern and/or otherwise influence medical necessity decisions.

POLICY SCOPE

This policy applies to claims submitted to Highmark Wholecare under the Health Choices Medical Assistance product.

Use of CMS NCD and LCD

When no plan policy exists, we follow Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) National Coverage Determinations (NCD), Local Coverage Determinations (LCD) and LCD Articles when determining medically necessary diagnoses. These Determinations define coverage criteria with a list of CPT, HCPCS, and/or ICD-10-CM codes that are approved.

If a procedure or service is submitted without an appropriate diagnosis code on the claim, then the procedure or service will be denied. Likewise, if a DME HCPCS code is submitted without an appropriate diagnosis code on the claim, then the DME HCPCS code will be denied.

The CMS Coverage Data Base and Advanced Search for NCD, LCD, and Articles may be found at this link: <https://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/search.aspx?redirect=Y&from=Overview>

Durable Medical Equipment (DME) related LCDs may be found in the same place on the Noridian website: <https://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jadme/policies/lcd/active>

CMS Medicare National Coverage (NCD) Coding Policy Manual and Change Report for Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Services is updated quarterly and may be found at this link: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coverage/CoverageGenInfo/LabNCDsICD10>

Policy History

| Date | Activity |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 02/20/2018 | Initial effective date |
| 02/01/2021 | Reviewed with no changes |
| 01/01/2022 | Updated policy source links |