



An Anthem Company

## NEW YORK Provider Communications

### Reimbursement Policy Update: Emergency Department: Leveling of Evaluation and Management Services (Facility)

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Effective January 1, 2021, Empire BlueCross BlueShield (“Empire”) classifies with an Evaluation and Management (E&M) code level the intensity/complexity of emergency department (ED) interventions a facility utilizes to furnish all services indicated on the claim. E&M services will be reimbursed based on this classification. Facilities must utilize appropriate HIPAA compliant codes for all services rendered during the ED encounter. If the E&M code level submitted is higher than the E&M code level supported on the claim, we reserve the right to perform one of the following:

- Deny the claim and request resubmission at the appropriate level or request the provider submit documentation supporting the level billed
- Adjust reimbursement to reflect the lower ED E&M classification
- Recover and/or recoup monies previously paid on the claim in excess of the E&M code level supported

Please refer to the Emergency Department: Level of Evaluation and Management Services reimbursement policy for additional details at [empireblue.com](http://empireblue.com). Please include this update with your [Provider Manual](#) for future reference.

Facilities that believe their medical record documentation supports reimbursement for the originally submitted level for the E&M service will be able to follow the dispute resolution process in accordance with the terms of their contract. Claims disputes require a statement providing the reason the intensity/complexity would require a different level of reimbursement and the medical records which should clearly document the facility interventions performed and referenced in that statement.

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**URL:** <https://providernews.empireblue.com/article/reimbursement-policy-update-emergency-department-leveling-of-evaluation-and-management-services-facility-3>

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