

May 6, 2020

Re: Inpatient Reimbursement Increase for Acute Facilities

As Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana continues to review critical medical services needed to combat the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), we are looking at ways we can help ease the administrative burden of our acute care facilities.

Effective for inpatient acute care claims with a beginning date of service between March 1 and May 31, 2020, we are implementing a 20% increase in inpatient base allowable for our network acute facilities. This increase will be specifically applied to claims for the following COVID-19 diagnosis codes:

- B97.21
- B97.29
- U07.1 (only for claims on or after April 1, 2020)

The outlier payment amount for COVID-19-related inpatient acute claims, if applicable, will be calculated based on the original base allowable.

Claims already received and processed by Blue Cross that meet the criteria outlined above will be adjusted appropriately without the provider needing to re-file the claim.

Patient presenting diagnosis codes are excluded from the 20% increase in inpatient base allowable.

More Online

For other COVID-19-related billing information, visit our COVID-19 Provider Resources page, where you can easily access our latest provider communications. Go to www.BCBSLA.com/providers, then click on the "COVID-19 Provider Resources" link at the top of the page. We will continue to add updated information to this page as it develops.

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Contact Us

If you have questions about COVID-19, you may send an email to our Provider Relations Department at provider.relations@bcbsla.com. Please put "COVID-19 Billing" in the subject line.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hiral Arges". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hiral Arges
VP, Provider Relations and Contracting
Network Administration

HA/jls