

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Department of Health Care Finance**



Office of the Deputy Director-Medicaid

**Transmittal # 20-31**

TO: All DC Medicaid Hospitals

FROM: Melisa Byrd  
Senior Deputy Director and State Medicaid Director

DATE: August 28, 2020

SUBJECT: *Hospital Inpatient International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Procedure Coding System (ICD-10-PCS) Additions for COVID-19 Services*

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**Purpose**

The Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) is committed to taking critical steps to ensure District residents have access to medically necessary, clinically appropriate diagnostic laboratory tests and other healthcare to mitigate and contain the threat of the COVID-19. This transmittal, therefore, notifies hospitals of the 12 new applicable International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Procedure Coding System (ICD-10-PCS) new procedure codes related to inpatient hospital services to report COVID-19-specific treatments for better tracking of the disease management.

**Background**

COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans. COVID-19 is the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, Hubei province, China. Since December 2019, there have been increasing cases of detection globally and across states, counties and municipalities in the US.

In response to this pandemic, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has implemented twelve new ICD-10-PCS procedure codes to describe the introduction or infusion of therapeutics, including Remdesivir and convalescent plasma, effective August 1, 2020. These codes are reimbursable by DHCF for medically necessary, clinically appropriate COVID-19 related services.

DC Medicaid uses a hospital inpatient payment method based on the All Patients Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (APR-DRG) classification system. ICD-10 diagnosis and procedure codes, along with other information from inpatient claims, are used by the DC Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) to assign APR-DRG codes and calculate reimbursement.

Based on current information from 3M Health Information Systems, the developer of APR-DRG software, the addition of these ICD-10 procedure codes will not impact the assignment of the APR-DRG code, nor the assignment of the severity of illness (SOI) indicators associated with each DRG and thus will not impact claim reimbursement. Hospitals are encouraged to report

these codes when applicable, as they will be useful in evaluating the effectiveness of different therapeutic substances used to treat COVID-19 and for tracking patient outcomes. Providers should follow national coding guidelines when reporting these procedure codes.

As indicated in the following table, these procedure codes will not affect the APR-DRG assignment.

Procedure Code	Description
XW013F5	Introduction of Other New Technology Therapeutic Substance into Subcutaneous Tissue, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW033E5	Introduction of Remdesivir Anti-infective into Peripheral Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW033F5	Introduction of Other New Technology Therapeutic Substance into Peripheral Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW033G5	Introduction of Sarilumab into Peripheral Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW033H5	Introduction of Tocilizumab into Peripheral Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW043E5	Introduction of Remdesivir Anti-infective into Central Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW043F5	Introduction of Other New Technology Therapeutic Substance into Central Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW043G5	Introduction of Sarilumab into Central Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW043H5	Introduction of Tocilizumab into Central Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW0DXF5	Introduction of Other New Technology Therapeutic Substance into Mouth and Pharynx, External Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW13325	Transfusion of Convalescent Plasma (Nonautologous) into Peripheral Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5
XW14325	Transfusion of Convalescent Plasma (Nonautologous) into Central Vein, Percutaneous Approach, New Technology Group 5

As the procedure codes are designated as non-O.R. procedures, there is no assigned MDC or APR-DRG. The ICD-10 - DRG assignment is dependent on the reported principal diagnosis, any secondary diagnoses defined as a complication or comorbidity (CC) or major complication or comorbidity (MCC), procedures or services performed, age, sex, and discharge status.

### Contact

DHCF will continue to provide updates to this information as appropriate. If you have questions, please contact Bidemi Isiaq, Associate Director, Rates & Reimbursements, at [Bidemi.isiaq@dc.gov](mailto:Bidemi.isiaq@dc.gov) or 202-442-9202.

**Cc:** DC Hospital Association  
Medical Society of DC