

Updated: 08/20/20

On July 30, 2020, CMS announced new procedure codes for therapeutic Remdesivir for treating hospital inpatients with COVID-10. (<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/cms-announces-new-hospital-procedure-codes-therapeutics-response-covid-19-public-health-emergency>, <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/icd-10-ms-drgs-version-372-effective-august-01-2020.pdf>)

**When Remdesivir is used as an inpatient treatment with an appropriate COVID diagnosis ....**

- a. **Is it a covered service?**
- b. **Does it require a prior authorization?**
- c. **Are you following the ICD-10-PCS coding for Remdesivir (XW033E5, XW043E5)?**
- d. **Are there special billing instructions?**
- e. **Will it be reimbursed as an individual service or part of the DRG bundle?**

**Answer to Question**

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<b>Aetna</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes</li> <li>b. No</li> <li>c. Miscellaneous code J3490 - Miscellaneous codes don't have a fee with them.</li> <li>d. Our hospital contracts include drugs, bandages, RN's, lab testing, chest x-rays, etc..... From a network contracting perspective, any drug is included in the hospital per diem, case rate or DRG. This should not be a separate billable especially as Aetna is increasing payments to providers for the treatment of COVID-19 patients for certain diagnosis-related groups and specific contracting methodologies.</li> <li>e. DRG</li> </ul>	
<b>Amerigroup - DSNP</b>	08-20-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Yes</li> <li>b. To be determined</li> <li>c. ICD-10 MS- DRG grouper version 37.2 already accommodates these new codes and is effective for discharges on or after 08/01.</li> <li>d. Anthem does not have anything published at this time. (There has not been mention of future publishing of anything.)</li> </ul>	

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<b>CHPW – Medicare Advantage</b>			
<b>Cigna</b>			
<b>Coordinated Care - Commercial</b>			
<b>First Choice (TPA and PPO)</b>	08-12-20	a. Covered for treatment of COVID-19 b. Inpatient services require Prior Authorization. c. We accept these ICD10 procedure codes. d. For inpatient claims for Remdesivir, XW0033E5, XW043E5 should be used e. Generally, If the contract with the hospital is for MS DRG reimbursement, it would be included in the MS DRG payment.	
<b>HCA Apple Health</b>			
<b>Medicaid FFS</b>			
<b>Amerigroup</b>			
<b>CHPW</b>			
<b>Coordinated Care</b>			
<b>Molina</b>			
<b>UHC Community Plan</b>			
<b>KP-NW</b>			
<b>KP-WA</b>			
<b>Labor &amp; Industries</b>			

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<b>Molina - Marketplace</b>			
<b>Pacific Source</b>	08-20-20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> <li>Yes, we follow all industry standard coding</li> <li>There does not appear to be any special billing instructions</li> <li>Reimbursement as as an individual service or aspart of the DRG bundle depends on the contract with the billing provider</li> </ol>	
<b>Premera</b>			
<b>Providence</b>			
<b>Regence</b>	08-20-20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes when provided under the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).</li> <li>No</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>There are billing instructions on how to bill for COVID-19, but nothing specific to Remdesivir</li> <li>Part of the DRG bundle.</li> </ol>	
<b>UHC - Commercial</b>	08-20-20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UHC will provide coverage for situations meeting the EUA criteria - Based on the FDA’s Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) that allows for the distribution and emergency use of Remdesivir only</li> </ol>	

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		<p>for the treatment of hospitalized patients with severe COVID-19 disease.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No - since Remdesivir will be administered as part of a hospital stay, a separate prior authorization for individual treatments is not required.</li> <li>Yes - UnitedHealthcare will recognize and accept the use of these codes.</li> <li>None at this time. We may have refined billing instructions in the future as information regarding treatment changes quickly. Providers can find these updated through our <a href="http://uhcprovider.com">uhcprovider.com</a> provider portal.</li> <li>Payment for the drug and its administration will be made in accordance with the terms of the hospital's contract.</li> </ol>
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