

Updated: 08/27/20

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

Aetna		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes b. No c. Miscellaneous code J3490 - Miscellaneous codes don't have a fee with them. 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. e. DRG 	
Amerigroup - DSNP	08-26-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes b. No we do not require prior authorization during Acute IP episode c. ICD-10 MS- DRG grouper version 37.2 already accommodates these new codes and is effective for discharges on or after 08/01. d. Anthem does not have anything published at this time. (There has not been mention of future publishing of anything.) 	

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CHPW – Medicare Advantage			
Cigna			
Coordinated Care - Commercial			
First Choice (TPA and PPO)	08-12-20	<p>First Choice Health is a PPO network that does not define the benefits. Please reach out to the individual Payers to confirm benefits.</p> <p>For First Choice Health Administrators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
HCA Apple Health	08-26-20	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes b. No c. The files have been uploaded into our system and we will be following CMS rules as instructed. d. Yes, use DR modifier to denote COVID related 	

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		e. Payment for Remdesivir will be bundled in the DRG payment for providers paid via this methodology	
Medicaid FFS	08-26-20	See HCA Apple Health response above	
Amerigroup	08-26-20	See HCA Apple Health response above	
CHPW	08-26-20	See HCA Apple Health response above	
Coordinated Care	08-26-20	See HCA Apple Health response above	
Molina	08-26-20	See HCA Apple Health response above	
UHC Community Plan	08-26-20	See HCA Apple Health response above	
KP-NW KP-WA	08-26-20	<p>a. Yes, for inpatient IV formulation for treatment.</p> <p>b. Not at this time.</p> <p>c. Hospital claims are repriced using Optum’s APR-Grouper software product. Updates still need to be made to the software, but the vendor is waiting to see how the Washington Health Care Authority (for Medicaid) or the 3M software will handle the new codes that were effective on 8/1/2020 before making any changes to their APR-DRG Grouper product. The intention is to map the new codes to the existing V37.1 APR-DRG Grouper.</p> <p>d. Not at this time.</p> <p>e. It will be reimbursed as part of the DRG grouper, just like an IV antibiotic would be covered in any hospital visit.</p>	
Labor & Industries	08-26-20	a. Yes	

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		b. No c. Yes d. No e. As part of a DRG bundle	
Molina - Commercial	08-26-20	a. Yes b. At this time it does not go through a routine PA process. c. We allow ICD-10-PCS coding for Remdesivir (XW033E5, XW043E5) as of 8/1/2020 and after d. Not at this time e. For Critical Access Hospitals - covered revenue codes are paid a percentage of billed charges For Facilities paid APRDRG - payment is included in the DRG	
Pacific Source	08-20-20	a. Yes b. No c. Yes, we follow all industry standard coding d. There does not appear to be any special billing instructions e. Reimbursement as an individual service or as part of the DRG bundle depends on the contract with the billing provider	
Premera	08-27-20	a. Yes, when provided under FDA EUA. b. No	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Yes, XW033E5, XW043E5 are the correct codes d. None at this time. e. It depends on the type of contract. If the contract is a DRG contract, the cost would be captured in the case rate for the episode of care. For all other contracts, it would be paid at the same reimbursement methodology as used for all other covered items on the submitted inpatient claim. 	
Providence			
Regence	08-20-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Yes when provided under the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). b. No c. Yes d. There are billing instructions on how to bill for COVID-19, but nothing specific to Remdesivir e. Part of the DRG bundle. 	
UHC - Commercial	08-20-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 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 for the treatment of hospitalized patients with severe COVID-19 disease. 	

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- b. No - since Remdesivir will be administered as part of a hospital stay, a separate prior authorization for individual treatments is not required.
- c. Yes - UnitedHealthcare will recognize and accept the use of these codes.
- d. 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 uhcprovider.com provider portal.
- e. Payment for the drug and its administration will be made in accordance with the terms of the hospital's contract.