



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 17, 2018

BWC to Reverse Denials for Timed Service Codes After OSCA Meeting

The OSCA met with senior BWC officials yesterday on the bureau's September 7th "BWC Policy Alert" related to timed service codes. Specifically, the meeting was to get clarification on BWC's expectations regarding the documentation procedures for timed services but also to urge against the bureau denying payment of previous submitted claims. BWC agreed with OSCA points and the following action items resulted from the meeting:

1. Setting a November 19, 2018 effective date to allow providers to comply with this policy alert.
2. Sending a notification to the MCOs indicating that reimbursement denials pursuant to the September 7, 2018 policy alert should be reversed and further denials for this reason should be avoided prior to November 19, 2018.
3. Execute within the next two weeks, updates and republishing of the relevant language in the BWC Billing and Reimbursement Manual to eliminate future confusion.

Additionally, BWC will present a WebEx webinar on this and other relevant reimbursement policies before the end of October. Additional information will be forthcoming.

OSCA members should expect claims applicable to this policy alert to be reprocessed for payment. If your claims are not reprocessed or if you receive denials between now and November 19th for the following reason: "documentation does not show beginning and ending time of treatment," please contact the OSCA.

Documentation Requirement Effective November 19th

Specific to timed-based physical and rehabilitative therapy codes, documentation in the medical record of therapy provided to injured workers **must include the actual beginning and ending time of the treatment session.** Documentation of total time in minutes does not replace the requirement for the beginning and ending time.

A future meeting will be taking place to address additional concerns affecting our members.

For additional information, please contact the OSCA Office at osca@oscachiro.org.

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