

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

Clip And Save: Pocket This POS Coding List

Tip: Check the small print on definitions to sidestep confusion.

Correct place of service (POS) coding will not only help you submit cleaner claims, but it will also help you avoid Medicare claims reviewers' scrutiny. Stay on your carrier's good side by choosing your code based on these descriptions, straight from Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance:

11 (Office): Location, other than a hospital, skilled nursing facility (SNF), military treatment facility, community health center, state or local public health clinic, or intermediate care facility (ICF), where the health professional routinely provides health examinations, diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury on an ambulatory basis. Fair market value for the office must be paid for this office to qualify for an office and POS 11.

12 (Home): Location, other than a hospital or other facility, where the patient receives care in a private residence.



21 (Inpatient hospital): A facility, other than psychiatric, that primarily provides diagnostic, therapeutic (both surgical and nonsurgical) and rehabilitation services by, or under, the supervision of physicians to patients admitted for a variety of medical conditions.

22 (Outpatient hospital): A portion of a hospital that provides diagnostic, therapeutic (both surgical and nonsurgical) and rehabilitation services to sick or injured persons who do not require hospitalization or institutionalization.

23 (Emergency room, hospital): A portion of a hospital where emergency diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury is provided.

31 (Skilled nursing facility): A facility that primarily provides inpatient skilled nursing care and related services to patients who require medical, nursing, or rehabilitative services but does not provide the level of care or treatment available in a hospital.

32 (Nursing facility): A facility that primarily provides to residents skilled nursing care and related services for the rehabilitation of injured, disabled, or sick persons, or, on a regular basis, health-related care services above the level of custodial care to other than mentally retarded individuals.

33 (Custodial care facility): A facility that provides room, board and other personal assistance services, generally on a long-term basis, and does not include a medical component.