

Eli's Rehab Report

Reader Question: Get Answers About Treating Patients in the Home

Question: Can I bill for outpatient physical therapy if I'm treating a patient at his home? I've heard that I just need to list the place of service as his home.

Georgia Subscriber

Answer: The answer is yes for Medicare beneficiaries who require skilled therapy services. You may bill outpatient physical therapy for a home treatment.

You can see more details about this online at www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/Downloads/bp102c15.pdf. Go to section 220.1.4 on page 133. If you practice in a comprehensive outpatient rehab facility, Medicare allows you one home visit when providing outpatient therapy services. For other payers besides Medicare, you must check with that specific payer's policies.

Tip: Your place-of-service code would be 12 (home), which you would put in box 24 of the claim form if you are a private practice submitting claims on Form CMS-1500.