

CPT Code 99072 Billing and Reimbursement Guidance

To report additional expenses incurred during the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), the American Medical Association (AMA) has released CPT code **99072** effective **September 8, 2020**.

CPT Code 99072: Additional supplies, materials, and clinical staff time over and above those usually included in an office visit or other non-facility service(s), when performed during a Public Health Emergency as defined by law, due to respiratory-transmitted infectious disease.

Key Facts and Resources

- Independent Health will not separately reimburse CPT code 99072 for all lines of business. It is a Bundled Code status 'B': payment for covered services are always bundled into payment for other services.
- This determination aligns with New York State Medicaid and CMS positions on coverage.
- Independent Health pended claims for this code while awaiting State and/or Federal Guidance.
- Pended claims began being released on November 5, 2020 to apply the bundled denial on 99072.
- Additional information on Status Indicator 'B' codes is in the Participating Provider Reimbursement Manual. Log in to view the manual.
- Providers may continue to submit CPT code 99072 as appropriate according to criteria set forth by AMA.
 - Per the AMA CPT Assistant, this code accounts for the additional supplies, materials, and clinical staff time required to check patient symptoms over the phone and at arrival, the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and increased sanitation measures to further prevent the spread of disease.
 - AMA specifies the new code captures the practice expense to also include the use of three surgical masks, cleaning supplies, including additional quantities of sanitizers, wipes and sprays.
 - Clinical staff time (RN, LPN, MTA) over what is normally included in the primary service, to conduct the pre-visit phone calls to screen patients, provide necessary instructions on social distancing, check patients for symptoms upon arrival, apply and remove PPE and perform additional cleaning.
 - Providers should review AMA materials for understanding of all AMA guidelines

Billing Guidance for CPT 99072

- Only billable for face-to-face services in a non-facility place of service setting, “and in an area where it is required to mitigate the transmission of the respiratory disease for which the PHE was declared”.

- May be reported once per in-person patient encounter, per provider.
- Only to be reported during the PHE; once the PHE has ended the code is no longer valid.
- **Not** billable when the physician or other qualified health care professional performs the clinical staff activities noted by the AMA.
- **Not** separately billable by home health specialties or in the clinic setting.

View this [AMA Resource Link for COVID-19 Coding](#)