

Chiropractic Services Payment Policy

Applies to the following CarePartners of Connecticut products:

- ☒ CareAdvantage Preferred
- ☒ CarePartners Access

The following payment policy applies to providers who render chiropractic services to members of the CarePartners of Connecticut plans selected above.

Note: Audit and disclaimer information is located at the end of this document.

Policy

CarePartners of Connecticut covers medically necessary chiropractic services, in accordance with the member's benefits.

Referral/Prior Authorization/Notification Requirements

Certain procedures, items and/or services may require prior authorization. While you may not be the provider responsible for obtaining prior authorization, as a condition of payment you must confirm that prior authorization has been obtained. For more information, refer to the Referrals, Prior Authorizations, and Notifications chapter of the CarePartners of Connecticut Provider Manual.

No referrals, prior authorizations or inpatient notifications are required for in-network chiropractic services. Referrals are required for out-of-network services rendered for HMO members.

Billing Instructions

Unless otherwise stated, CarePartners of Connecticut follows industry-standard coding guidelines. Refer to current industry-standard coding guidelines for a complete list of ICD, CPT/HCPCS, revenue codes, modifiers, and their usage. Providers may only bill the procedure code(s) in accordance with the applicable financial exhibits of their provider agreements and applicable fee schedules.

During the course of a single visit, submit the following procedure codes with manipulation treatment, an initial evaluation, or an established patient visit, when appropriate.

Evaluation and Management Services

- 99202-99205: Office visit for initial evaluation and management (E&M) of a new patient

Chiropractic Manipulative Treatment (CMT)

- 98940: CMT, spinal, one to two regions
- 98941: CMT, spinal, three to four regions
- 98942: CMT, spinal, five regions

The AT modifier must be submitted to indicate active/corrective treatment has been performed; claims billed without the AT modifier will be considered maintenance therapy and will deny.

The primary diagnosis code must indicate the precise level of subluxation. The secondary diagnosis code(s) should indicate symptoms/conditions (i.e., the neuromusculoskeletal condition necessitating treatment).

Compensation/Reimbursement Information

Providers are compensated according to the applicable contracted rates and applicable fee schedules.

Chiropractic Manipulation and Evaluation and Management Services

Compensation for evaluation and management (E&M) services are included in chiropractic manipulation services; however, CarePartners of Connecticut will consider reimbursement for the E&M service if the appropriate modifier is appended to the procedure code to indicate that the service is distinct and separately identifiable.

X-Rays Taken in an Office Setting

Chiropractors may be eligible for compensation of medically necessary x-rays taken in their office. Prior to initiating x-ray services, verify the member's benefit specifics and refer to the provider's health services agreement for contracted radiology codes.

member is responsible for payment beyond the benefit limit.

CarePartners of Connecticut Reimburses

- One manual spinal manipulation per day
- Diagnostic x-rays, as defined by benefit plan

CarePartners of Connecticut Does *Not* Reimburse*

- Application of vasopneumatic devices
- Chiropractic care outside of standard chiropractic service including, but not limited to:
 - Acupuncture treatment
 - Biofeedback training
 - Diagnostic testing
 - Electrical stimulation (unattended) for other than wound care (G0283)
 - Prescribed or dispensed medication
 - Surgery
 - Treatment of infectious diseases
- Durable medical equipment (DME)
- E&M services with a spinal manipulation unless it is a significant separately identifiable service
- Herbal medicine treatment
- Hot or cold packs
- Infrared, ultraviolet, and therapeutic activities that are provided one-on-one to improve functional performance
- Manual therapy techniques for less than 15 minutes, or when performed on the same area as spinal manipulation and for the same condition as the manipulation
- Massage therapy
- Paraffin baths and whirlpool
- Physical therapy evaluation and re-evaluation
- Thermography
- Treatment with crystals
- Vitamins, mineral and/or food supplements, or other supplies
- Whirlpool

*Unless otherwise specified in benefit plan documents

Additional Resources

- Evaluation and Management
- Durable Medical Equipment (DME) and Medical Supplies

Document History

- September 2025: Annual policy review; updated Additional Resources; added Reimbursement section; administrative edits
- September 2024: Annual policy review; no changes
- October 2023: Annual policy review; administrative updates
- October 2022: Annual policy review; no changes
- December 2020: Added applicable CarePartners Access PPO content, effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2021
- September 2020: Policy reviewed by committee; added existing AT modifier and required diagnosis billing instructions
- January 2019: Policy created

Audit and Disclaimer Information

CarePartners of Connecticut reserves the right to conduct audits on any provider and/or facility to ensure compliance with the guidelines stated in this payment policy. If such an audit determines that a provider/facility did not comply with this payment policy, CarePartners of Connecticut will expect the provider/facility to refund all payments related to noncompliance.

This policy provides information on CarePartners of Connecticut claims adjudication processes. As every claim is unique, this policy is neither a guarantee of payment, nor a final indication of how specific claim(s) will be adjudicated. Claims payment is subject to member eligibility and benefits on the date of service, coordination of benefits, referral/authorization and utilization management requirements (when applicable), adherence to plan policies and procedures, and claims editing logic. An authorization is not a guarantee of payment. Claims for services subject to authorization may be reviewed for accuracy and compliance with payment policies.

This policy applies to the CarePartners of Connecticut products identified by the checkboxes on page one. CarePartners of Connecticut reserves the right to amend a payment policy at its discretion.