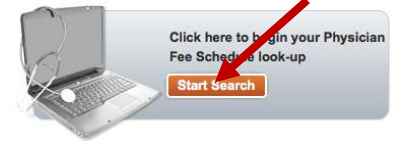


Have you reviewed your Fees lately?

As the end of 2019 quickly approaches, it's time to begin thinking about your fees for 2020. Medicare has not released the 2020 fee schedule yet, but we already know that it will have an average increase in reimbursement of 0.5% over this year. Some codes will increase a little more, some less. Once the fee schedule is finalized, it will be accessible to everyone via the CMS website. You can either Google "Physician Fee Schedule Look Up" or type: <https://go.cms.gov/2aAOFIH>. Like most government-run websites, they have a ton of information that is very difficult to access. But once you learn to navigate the labyrinth, it reveals a great number of valuable secrets.

November 2020

First, navigate to the Look-Up tool and click on "Start Search." From here you must accept their licensing agreement. Once you are into the actual search tool, you can define for what you are looking.



Notice on the screen below, you can select just pricing information, RVUs, All the info, etc. If you choose "All," you will get a lot of info that seems irrelevant for our normal purposes, but it will also provide the global periods for the CPT you are searching.

Physician Fee Schedule Search

Search Criteria

Begin your search below by selecting search criteria. Additional search criteria will appear depending on which selections you choose. Once your selections are complete, you will be asked to submit your criteria. All search criteria options displayed on this page are required.

Please select a year (see 'Notes for Selected Year' box for details):
2019

NOTES FOR SELECTED YEAR
2019: The Medicare Physician Fee Schedule update factor for 2019 is 0.25% and the conversion factor is 36.0391.

PFS UPDATE STATUS
Data last updated: 10/04/2019

Type of Information:
 Pricing Information
 Payment Policy Indicators
 Relative Value Units
 Geographic Practice Cost Index
 All

Select Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Criteria:
 Single HCPCS Code
 List of HCPCS Codes
 Range of HCPCS Codes

Select Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Option:
 National Payment
 Select "Specific MAC"
 Specific Locality
 All MACs

Pricing by Single HCPCS Code for a MA
Enter values for:
HCPCS Code: 92014
Modifier: Global (Diagnostic Service) OR Physicians Professional Service where Professional/Technical concept does not apply.

MAC:
06302 WISCONSIN

RESET SELECTION CRITERIA SUBMIT

Below that you can choose to look by a single code, multiple codes, or a range of codes. Once you define for what you are looking, click Submit to retrieve the information.

Next, you will see a horizontally-oriented table with many pieces of information. The most commonly needed information is the "Non-Facility Price." This is the dollar value that a Medicare participating doctor will be reimbursed for the searched CPT code.

MODIFIER	PROC STAT	MAC LOCALITY	NON-FACILITY PRICE	FACILITY PRICE	NON-FACILITY LIMITING CHARGE	FACILITY LIMITING CHARGE	CONV FACT
A		0630200	\$124.01	\$78.48	\$135.48	\$85.74	36.0391

A handy piece of information available is the global period. This is hiding to the far right on the horizontal table. You must scroll far over to find it. But it's nice to be able to look at a legitimate source versus

searching the internet and finding a random outdated article.

You can also review the Relative Value Unit (RVU) for all the CPT codes and find the current year's Conversion Factor (CF). By looking up a CPT code's RVU, you can calculate the reimbursement simply by multiplying it by that year's CF (**RVU x CF = Fee**). The useful aspect of knowing this formula is that you can easily use it to calculate out your own fees. Medicare may determine its CF to be 36.0391, but you may decide your office's CF should be 48. Now, just take the RVU from the CMS site for each of the codes you use and multiply it by 48 to find your fee. For example, if CMS assigns a code an RVU of 3.2, simply multiply your CF by 3.2 and you will have your fee.

Medicare	Your Office
3.2 x 36.0391 = \$115.33	3.2 x 48 = \$153.60

Knowing where to find the correct information is not just useful, it's necessary when making business decisions. I encourage you to look over your fees now and set your fees for 2020. The Medicare fee schedule



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won't be radically different than this year. You should be able to make reasonable decisions now...before the end of the year craziness begins.