

Correcting and Avoiding Reason Code 31755: Billing the First Visit in a Home Health Episode

Background

Home Health Agencies are required to bill a revenue line with code 0023 on the Request for Anticipated Payment (RAP) and the final episode claim. Revenue Code 0023 indicates that the billing is for services under the Home Health Prospective Payment System (HHPPS). The revenue line with 0023 must contain the Health Insurance Prospective Payment System (HIPPS) code pertaining to the episode being billed along with the date of the first billable service in the episode.

The admission date, from date and 0023 revenue line date should all be equal on an initial home health episode RAP and claim. If the episode claim is for a subsequent episode, the admission date should equal the date the patient was admitted to home care, the from date should equal the date of the first day in the episode (day 61, 121, 181, etc.) and the 0023 revenue line date should equal the date of the first billable visit provided in that episode.

Provider Action Steps

Providers need to ensure that the 0023 revenue line is on the final episode claim and that the line item date of service equals the date of the first billable visit in the episode. There must also be at least one revenue line that has a line item date of service that matches the date on the 0023 revenue line.

Example: A home health episode begins 10/06/13. The first billable service in this initial episode will have a matching admission date (10/06/13) and from date (10/06/13). The 0023 revenue line will reflect the first billable visit and there will be a revenue line which will reflect the same date of service:

Revenue Code	HCPCS Code	Units	Total Charge	Service Date
0023	1AFK1	60	0.00	100613
0551	G0164	3	250.00	100613

The subsequent episode begins on 12/05/13. The first billable service in the subsequent episode is on 12/09/13. The admission date remains the same (10/06/13), the from date is day 61

(12/05/13) and the first billable service reported with revenue line 0023 is on 12/09/13. There must be a line item date of service matching the first billable visit in this episode:

Revenue Code	HCPCS Code	Units	Total Charge	Service Date
0023	1AGM1	60	0.00	120913
0421	G0151	4	275.00	120913

Resources

CMS Internet Only Manual (IOM), Publication 100-04 (*Claims Processing*), Chapter 10 (*Home Health Agency Billing*), Section 40.2 (*Billing HH PPS claims*)

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