

Provider Newsletter



District of Columbia

<https://providers.amerigroup.com/dc>

August 2020



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COVID-19 information from Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc.

Amerigroup DC is closely monitoring COVID-19 developments and how the novel coronavirus will impact our enrollees and provider partners. Our clinical team is actively monitoring external queries and reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) to help us determine what action is necessary on our part. Amerigroup DC will continue to follow DHCF guidance policies. Please refer to the [DHCF's announcement](#).

For additional information, reference the *COVID-19 News and Resources* section on the homepage of our [website](#).

DCPEC-1428-20

What Matters Most online training course: improving patient experience

The *What Matters Most* online training course for providers and office staff addresses gaps in care and offers approaches to communication with patients. The course is available at no cost and is eligible for one CME credit by the American Academy of Family Physicians. The *What Matters Most* online training course can be accessed at: www.patientexptraining.com.

DC-NL-0338-20



Provider demographics update

Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc. partners with AIM Specialty Health®* (AIM), a leading specialty benefits management company that provides services like radiology, cardiology, genetic testing, oncology, musculoskeletal, rehabilitation, sleep management and additional specialty areas (services vary by state). Partnerships like this require Amerigroup DC provider demographic information (group or practice name, additional providers added to the group/practice, location) is current and accurate to avoid provider and enrollee abrasion.

In the event the provider's demographic information has not been updated in the Amerigroup DC system, the data will also be missing from the provider data that goes to AIM. Therefore, providers may not be able to locate the requested record in the AIM system. While the provider's information can be manually entered to build a case, the record will appear to be out-of-network, and the case will adjudicate accordingly.

Amerigroup DC provider data updates flow to AIM via the provider data extract, but the data flow does not work in the reverse. Amerigroup DC does not receive updated provider data from AIM.

Therefore, it is important that providers make the following changes or updates with Amerigroup DC, not AIM:

- Group or practice name
- TIN
- NPI
- Address (add/remove location(s), corrections)
- Phone numbers
- Fax numbers
- Any additional changes



** AIM Specialty Health is an independent company providing some utilization review services on behalf of Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc.*

DC-NL-0328-20

Provider coding education (CME/CEU)

Webinars and on-demand trainings are now available!

You can now access all provider coding education events for Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc. with one easy, convenient link: Click [here](#).

Save this link to your favorites for easy access and to share with coworkers. Amerigroup DC will add new continuing education opportunities to the training page each month, so please check it often. Enjoy informative webinars designed specifically for network providers, coders, billers and office staff. A variety of helpful and educational topics relating to coding and documentation, claims and billing issues, enrollee care, quality measures and more are available.

Live events:

Each live training webinar event awards one unit of continuing education. Physicians and health care professionals may claim the amount of credit commensurate with time spent participating in the activity.

On-demand events:

For your convenience, a library of recorded webinars is available. Use the link above to preview and register for any or all of the desired topics. Passwords are required to register for on-demand recorded events (see below). While pre-recorded (on-demand) events do not offer CEU/CME at this time, they are a great way to stay up to date on pertinent information at your own convenience.

On-demand events passwords:

- 2019 recordings: DC2019
- 2020 recordings: DC2020.

Register today!

- Access the training site for Amerigroup DC: Click [here](#).
- You may also access the page using the QR code above: Use the camera on your device to capture the QR code above. A link will appear. Tap the link to open the training page.



DC-NL-0336-20

New MCG Care Guidelines 24th edition

Effective August 1, 2020, Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc. will use the new acute viral illness guidelines that have been added to the 24th edition of the MCG Care Guidelines. Based on the presenting symptoms or required interventions driving the need for treatment or hospitalization, these guidelines are not a substantive or material change to the existing MCG Care Guidelines we use now, such as systemic or infectious condition, pulmonary disease, or adult or pediatric pneumonia guidelines.

Inpatient Surgical Care (ISC):

- *Viral Illness, Acute — Inpatient Adult (M-280)*
- *Viral Illness, Acute — Inpatient Pediatric (P-280)*
- *Viral Illness, Acute — Observation Care (OC-064)*

Recovery Facility Care (RFC):

- *Viral Illness, Acute — Recovery Facility Care (M-5280)*

DC-NL-0335-20

InterQual 2020 update

The effective date for Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc. to use InterQual® 2020 criteria will be June 29, 2020. On this effective date, Amerigroup DC providers should begin using InterQual 2020 criteria.

DC-NL-0326-20

Medical drug *Clinical Criteria* updates

February 2020 update

On November 15, 2019, and February 21, 2020, the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee approved *Clinical Criteria* applicable to the medical drug benefit for Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc. These policies were developed, revised or reviewed to support clinical coding edits.

Effective dates are reflected in the [Clinical Criteria web posting](#).

DC-NL-0321-20

March 2020 update

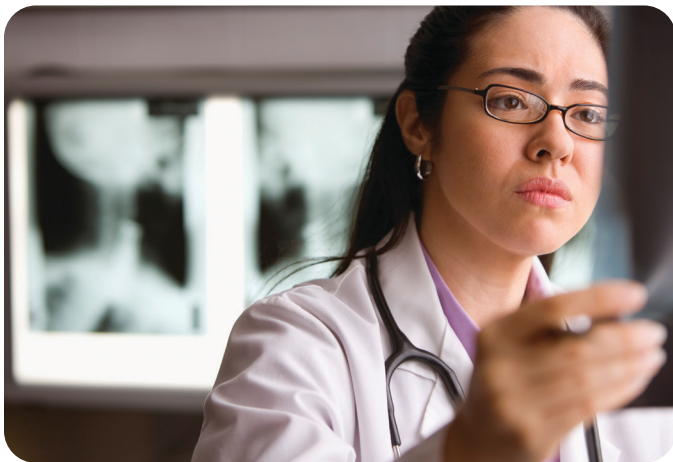
On November 15, 2019, February 21, 2020, and March 26, 2020, the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee approved *Clinical Criteria* applicable to the medical drug benefit for Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc. Please note, this does not affect the prescription drug benefit. These policies were developed, revised or reviewed to support clinical coding edits.

Effective dates are reflected in the [Clinical Criteria web posting](#).

DC-NL-0334-20

The *Clinical Criteria* is publicly available on our [provider website](#). Visit [Clinical Criteria](#) to search for specific policies.

Please submit your questions to [email](#).



Updates to AIM Specialty Health advanced imaging *Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines*

Effective for dates of service on and after August 16, 2020, the following updates will apply to the AIM Specialty Health®* advanced imaging of the chest, vascular imaging and AIM oncologic imaging *Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines*.



Read more online.

** AIM Specialty Health is an independent company providing some utilization review services on behalf of Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc.*

DC-NL-0325-20



Transition to AIM Rehabilitative Services *Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines*

Effective October 1, 2020, Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc. will transition the clinical criteria for medical necessity review of certain outpatient rehabilitative services from our clinical guidelines for physical therapy CG-REHAB-04, occupational therapy CG-REHAB-05 and speech language pathology CG-REHAB-06 to AIM Specialty Health®* Rehabilitative Service *Clinical Appropriateness Guidelines*. These reviews will continue to be completed by the DC utilization management team.

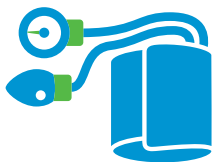
Access and download a copy of the current and upcoming guidelines [here](#).

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DC-NL-0330-20

Controlling High Blood Pressure (CBP)

This HEDIS® measure looks at the percentage of enrollees ages 18 to 85 years who have had a diagnosis of hypertension (HTN) and whose blood pressure (BP) was adequately controlled (< 140/90 mm Hg)



Record your efforts

Document blood pressure and diagnosis of hypertension. Enrollees whose BP is adequately controlled include:

- Enrollees 18 to 85 years of age who had a diagnosis of HTN and whose BP was adequately controlled (< 140/90 mm Hg) during the measurement year.
- The most recent BP reading during the measurement year on or after the second diagnosis of HTN.
- If no BP is recorded during the measurement year, assume that the enrollee is not controlled.

What does not count for this HEDIS measure?

- If blood pressure is taken on the same day as a diagnostic test or procedure or for a change in diet or medication regimen
- If blood pressure is taken on or one day before the day of any test or procedure
- Blood pressure taken during an acute inpatient stay or an emergency department visit



Read more online.

HEDIS is a registered trademark of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

DC-NL-0333-20



Coding spotlight: Provider guide to coding for cardiovascular conditions

In this coding spotlight, we will focus on several cardiovascular conditions; the ICD (International Classification of Diseases) codes from Chapter 9 of the ICD-10-CM are listed in the table below.

Diseases of the circulatory system	Category codes
Acute rheumatic fever	I00-I02
Chronic rheumatic heart diseases	I05-I09
Hypertensive diseases	I10-I16
Ischemic heart diseases	I20-I25
Pulmonary heart disease and diseases of pulmonary circulation	I26-I28
Other forms of heart disease	I30-I52
Cerebrovascular diseases	I60-I69
Diseases of arteries, arterioles and capillaries	I70-I79
Diseases of veins, lymphatic vessels and lymph nodes, not elsewhere classified	I80-I89
Other and unspecified disorders of the circulatory system	I95-I99

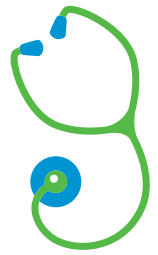


Read more online.

DC-NL-0324-20

Medical Policies and Clinical Utilization Management Guidelines update

The *Medical Policies, Clinical Utilization Management (UM) Guidelines* and *Third-Party Criteria* below were developed and/or revised to support clinical coding edits. Note, several policies and guidelines were revised to provide clarification only and are not included. Existing precertification requirements have not changed.



To view a guideline, visit https://medicalpolicies.amerigroup.com/am_search.html.

Notes/updates:

Updates marked with an asterisk (*) notate that the criteria may be perceived as more restrictive.

- *CG-MED-88 — Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis Testing:
 - Content moved from CG-GENE-06 — Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis Testing
 - Added Medically Necessary and Not Medically Necessary statements addressing preimplantation embryo biopsy
- *DME.00011 — Electrical Stimulation as a Treatment for Pain and Other Conditions: Surface and Percutaneous Devices:
 - Revised title (previous title: Electrical Stimulation as a Treatment for Pain and Related Conditions: Surface and Percutaneous Devices)
 - Revised scope of document to include other conditions and devices
 - Added cranial electrical stimulation (CES) as Investigational and Not Medically Necessary for all indications
 - Added remote electrical neuromodulation (REN) as Investigational and Not Medically Necessary for all indications
- *LAB.00011 — Analysis of Proteomic Patterns:
 - Revised Investigational and Not Medically Necessary statement to include management of disease
- *MED.00120 — Gene Therapy for Ocular Conditions:
 - Revised title (previous title: Voretigene neparvovec-rzyl [Luxturna®])
 - Expanded scope of document to include all gene therapies for ocular conditions
- Added the use of all other gene replacement therapies to treat any ocular condition as Investigational and Not Medically Necessary
- *SURG.00032 — Patent Foramen Ovale and Left Atrial Appendage Closure Devices for Stroke Prevention:
 - Revised title (previous title: Transcatheter Closure of Patent Foramen Ovale and Left Atrial Appendage for Stroke Prevention)
 - Added left atrial appendage closure via surgical (nonpercutaneous) implantation of a device as Investigational and Not Medically Necessary for all indications

Medical Policies

On February 20, 2020, the Medical Policy and Technology Assessment Committee (MPTAC) approved several *Medical Policies* applicable to Amerigroup, District of Columbia, Inc. These guidelines take effect June 20, 2020. View the update online for a list of the policies.

Clinical UM Guidelines

On February 20, 2020, the MPTAC approved several *Clinical UM Guidelines* applicable to Amerigroup DC. These guidelines were adopted by the medical operations committee for enrollees on March 10, 2020. These guidelines take effect June 20, 2020. View the update online for a list of the guidelines.



Read more online.

DC-NL-0323-20