





Reimbursement Policy

Subject: Portable/Mobile/Handheld Radiology

Effective Date: 10/01/17 | Committee Approval Obtained: Section: Radiology

07/03/19

*****The most current version of our reimbursement policies can be found on our provider website. If you are using a printed version of this policy, please verify the information by going to https://providers.amerigroup.com/TX.*****

These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claim submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement if the service is covered by a member's Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP (Medicare-Medicaid Plan) benefits. The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member's benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member's state of residence. You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with CPT® codes, HCPCS codes and/or revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed code(s) are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to both participating and nonparticipating providers and facilities.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP may:

- Reject or deny the claim.
- Recover and/or recoup claim payment.

Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP reimbursement policies for Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP are developed based on nationally accepted industry standards and coding principles. These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements. System logic or setup may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP strives to minimize these variations.

Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP reserves the right to review and revise our policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to this site.

Policy

Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP allows reimbursement for portable/mobile radiology services when furnished in a residence used as the member's home and if ordered by a physician and performed by qualified portable radiology suppliers unless provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise.

Portable/mobile radiology studies should not be performed for routine purposes or for reasons of convenience. Reimbursement is based on the applicable fee schedule or contracted/negotiated rate for the radiological service and transportation and setup components with the use of applicable modifiers.

Note: Portable radiology suppliers must be licensed or registered to perform services as required by applicable state laws.

Transportation

Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP allows reimbursement for transportation of portable radiology equipment when transported to the member's residence. Transportation costs are payable when the portable X-ray equipment used was actually transported to the location where the X-ray was taken.

Reimbursement for **transportation** is based on a single payment for each particular location regardless of the number of members receiving radiological services. For services provided to more than one member, the transportation cost is divided by the total number of members receiving services at that location. If more than one member receives portable radiology services, providers must bill with one of the following applicable modifiers:

- Modifier UN two members served
- Modifier UP three members served
- Modifier UQ four members served
- Modifier UR five members served
- Modifier US six or more members served
 - Total payment for the service is divided by six regardless of the number of members served

No modifier is required when only one member is served.

Nonreimbursable

Amerigroup STAR+PLUS MMP does not allow separate reimbursement for the following:

- Transportation costs of equipment stored for use as needed at any location qualifying as a member's residence
- Setup costs of portable mobile X-ray

If the diagnostic X-rays are not covered, payment will not be made for the transportation fee.

	Handheld Radiology
	The use of handheld radiology instruments is allowed. Reimbursement will
	be part of the physician's professional service, and no additional charge
	will be paid. The technical components for handheld radiology are not
	separately reimbursable.
History	Biennial review approved 07/03/19: Policy template updated
	Initial approval and effective date 10/01/17
References and Research Materials	This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:
	CMS policies
	Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)
	Contract with HHSC
Definitions	Portable Radiology Services: Also known as mobile radiology, portable
	radiology services are radiological procedures provided with hand-
	carried or mobile radiological components in a member's residence
	when the member is unable to travel to a physician's office or
	outpatient hospital radiology department due to the member's clinical
	condition. The member's residence must be one of the following:
	o Private home
	 Assisted living facility
	 Nursing facility
	 Intermediate care facility
	General Reimbursement Policy Definitions
Related Policies	Modifier Usage
Related Materials	None