



Physician/Provider Bulletin

Subject: Evaluation and Management Service Guidelines	
Plan: Coordinated Care	Bulletin Date: November 14, 2013
Bulletin Number: 13-07	Effective Date: N/A

The purpose of this bulletin is to assist participating providers in distinguishing between new and established patients:

“New” vs. “Established” Patients

CPT definitions clearly state:

A new patient is “one who has not received any professional services from the physician, another physician or an ancillary provider (including ARNP’s and P.A’s) of the **exact** same specialty and **subspecialty** who belongs to the same group practice, **within the past three years.**”

An established patient has received professional services from the physician, another physician or an ancillary provider (including ARNP’s and P.A’s) of the **exact** same specialty and **subspecialty** who belongs to the same group practice, **within the prior three years.**

Key Points...

In order to determine if your patient is “new” or “established”, you will need to understand two terms used in CPT’s definition of a new or established patient: “professional service” and “group practice”.

- **Professional Service** = CPT defines “professional service” as “those face-to-face services rendered by a physician and reported by a specific CPT code(s)”.
- **Group Practice/Ancillary Providers** = Single-specialty or multiple-specialty practices are considered a single “group” if they have the same tax identification number.

If you have questions regarding this provider bulletin, please contact your Provider Representative at (561) 659-1002.

Please insert this bulletin into your Provider Handbook. The policies and procedures in this bulletin supersede any related policies and procedures within the handbook.