Redding
Vacaville Eureka
Paradise Chico
Citrus Heights
Thousand Oaks
San Francisco
Seaside
Ventura
Carmel
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Hayward
Santa Clarita
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Bishop
San Luis Obispo
Santa Ana
Fairfield
Ione
Walnut Creek
Tahoe City
Bieber
Eagleville
Sacramento
Folsom
Elk Grove
Adin
Huntington Beach
Victorville
Weed
Barstow
Baker
Salinas
Simi Valley
San Andreas
Oxnard
Solvang
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Fort Bragg
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Marin
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Indio
Lancaster
Escondido
Alhambra
Torrance
Hemet
Garden Grove
Concord
San Clemente
Julian
Chula Vista
Alpine
San Marcos
San Diego
Visalia
Long Beach
Vista
Medical Transportation Services
The Outreach and Education team includes Regional Representatives, the Small Provider Billing Unit (SPBU) and Coordinators who are available to train and assist providers to efficiently submit their Medi-Cal claims for payment.

The Medi-Cal Learning Portal (MLP) brings Medi-Cal learning tools into the 21st Century. Simply complete a one-time registration to gain access to the MLP’s easy-to-use resources. View online tutorials, live and recorded webinars from the convenience of your own office and register for provider training seminars. For more information call the Telephone Service Center (TSC) at 1-800-541-5555 or go to the MLP at http://www.medi-cal.ca.gov/education.asp.

Free Services for Providers

Provider Seminars and Webinars
Provider training seminars and webinars offer basic and advanced billing courses for all provider types. Seminars are held throughout California and provide billing assistance services at the Claims Assistance Room (CAR). Providers are encouraged to bring their more complex billing issues and receive individual assistance from a Regional Representative.

Regional Representatives
The 24 Regional Representatives live and work in cities throughout California and are ready to visit providers at their office to assist with billing needs or provide training to office staff.

Small Provider Billing Unit
The four SPBU Specialists are dedicated to providing one-on-one billing assistance for one year to providers who submit fewer than 100 claim lines per month and would like some extra help. For more information about how to enroll in the SPBU Billing Assistance and Training Program, call 916-636-1275 or 1-800-541-5555.

All of the aforementioned services are available to providers at no cost!
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Medical Transportation Services

Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this module is to provide information about medical transportation for Medi-Cal recipients.

Module Objectives

- Identify Medi-Cal transportation policy for Medi-Cal recipients
- Define “emergency medical condition”
- Detail appropriate emergency service documentation requirements
- Explain emergency and non-emergency transportation
- Examine ground and air medical transportation policies
- Clarify TAR submission modifier changes for non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services
- Introduce Non-Medical Transportation (NMT) Medi-Cal benefit
- Review billing requirements for medical transportation
- Provide medical transportation claim scenarios

Acronyms

A list of current acronyms is located in the Appendix section of each complete workbook.
General Program Coverage

Medi-Cal covers ambulance and other medical transportation services only when ordinary public conveyance is medically contraindicated and transportation is required for obtaining needed medical care.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for medical transportation services, a recipient must be eligible for Medi-Cal on the date of service.

Transport Type

Authorization shall be granted or Medi-Cal reimbursement shall be approved only for the lowest cost type of medical transportation that is adequate for the recipient’s medical needs, and is available at the time transportation is required (California Code of Regulations [CCR], Title 22, Section 51323[b]).

Maintaining Transportation Records

Medical transportation providers are required to follow federal and state requirements when billing for services, as well as maintain supporting documentation for drivers and vehicles associated with medical transportation services. Medical transportation providers must keep, maintain and have readily retrievable records to fully disclose the type and extent of services provided in addition to maintaining supporting documentation for drivers and vehicles (CCR, Title 22, Section 51476, 51476, 51231, 51231.1 and 51231.2).

“Emergency Medical Condition” Defined

An “emergency medical condition” is a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, which, in the absence of immediate medical attention, could reasonably be expected to result in any of the following:

- Placing the recipient’s health in serious jeopardy
- Serious impairment to bodily functions
- Serious dysfunction to any bodily organ or body part
Emergency Ground Medical Transportation

Transportation to Nearest Hospital

Medi-Cal covers emergency ground transportation to the nearest hospital or acute care facility capable of meeting the recipient’s needs. When the geographically nearest facility cannot meet the needs of the recipient, transportation to the closest facility that can provide the necessary medical care is appropriate under Medi-Cal. Coverage will be jeopardized if a recipient is not transported to the nearest acute hospital or acute care facility capable of meeting a recipient’s emergency medical needs (contract or non-contract).

NOTE
In non-emergency situations, physicians and hospitals must adhere to hospital contract regulations and admit recipients to the nearest contract hospital.

Transportation to a Second Facility

Recipients are considered stable for transport when they are able to sustain transport in an ambulance staffed by an Emergency Medical Technician I (EMT I) with no expected increase in morbidity or mortality as a result of transportation.

If the recipient is an infant, the ambulance must have the necessary modular equipment.

When the nearest facility serves as the closest source of emergency care and the recipient is transferred to a more appropriate care facility, transportation from the first to the second facility is a continuation of the initial emergency trip. The exception when a transfer would not be considered a continuation of the initial emergency trip would be if the provider vehicle leaves the facility to return to its place of business or accepts another call.

NOTE
For complete information about ground medical transportation, refer to the Medical Transportation – Ground (mc tran gnd) section in the appropriate Part 2 provider manual.

NOTES
Emergency Statement

All emergency medical transportation requires both:

- The emergency service indicator on the claim. Mark the EMG field (Box 24C) on the CMS-1500 claim form or include condition code 81 (emergency indicator) on the UB-04 claim form.
- A statement in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the CMS-1500 claim form, or the Remarks field (Box 80) of the UB-04 claim form or an attachment, supporting that an emergency existed. The statement may be made by the provider of transportation and must include:
  - Nature of the emergency
  - Name of the hospital or acute care facility to which the recipient was transported. The name of the hospital is not required for claims submitted for emergency transport billed as a dry run.
  - Do not include an acronym in place of a hospital or acute care facility name. Abbreviations are acceptable.
  - Name of the physician (Doctor of Medicine [M.D.] or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.], accepting responsibility for the recipient). The name of the staff M.D., D.O. emergency department or medical director is acceptable. (This is not required for claims submitted for emergency transport billed as a dry run.)

NOTE
A physician’s signature is not required.

Emergency Statement Completion Reminders

- The emergency statement must be typed or printed.
- Do not use a pre-printed checklist.
- Clearly label any attachments and enter a note in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the CMS-1500 claim form referring to the attachments.
Emergency Transport Billing Scenario

In this billing scenario, the medical transport company is billing for emergency transportation services from the recipient’s home to an acute care hospital.

**NOTES**

- Include an emergency statement (Box 19) or on an attachment that an emergency existed.
- Include “X” indicator on all emergency claim lines (Box 24C).
- “UJ” modifier Night Call & time of service must be indicated in Remarks Area.
- Include complete origination/destination, including the zip code, when billing for mileage in the Remarks Area field or on an attachment.

---

10 01 17 41 X A0429 UJ

Midtown Ambulance
345 Elm
Anytown CA 958235555

Jane Doe
Signed Date 10/31/17

0123456789

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PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE
CR061593
APPROVED OMB-0938-1197 FORM 1500 02-12

April 2019

Medical Transportation Services
Non-Emergency Ground Medical Transportation

Non-Emergency Coverage

Non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) is covered only when a recipient’s medical or physical condition does not allow travel by bus, passenger car, taxicab or another form of public or private conveyance. Transport is not covered if the care to be obtained is not a Medi-Cal benefit on the date of service.

NEMT necessary to obtain medical services is covered subject to the written authorization of a licensed practitioner consistent with their scope of practice. Additionally, if the non-physician medical practitioner is under the supervision of a physician, the ability to authorize NEMT also must have been delegated by the supervision physician through a standard written agreement.

Providers who can authorize NEMT are physicians, podiatrists, dentists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, physical therapists, speech therapists, occupations therapists and mental health or substance use disorder providers.

Authorization

A Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) is required for NEMT. A legible prescription, or order sheet signed by the physician for institutional recipients, must accompany the TAR.

NOTE

The TAR may require inclusion of modifiers. Up to four modifiers are allowable. Modifier 99 is not allowed in conjunction with procedure codes associated with non-emergency medical transportation.

For dates of service on or after August 27, 2018: on paper TARs the appropriate modifier is entered after the procedure code in the NDC/UPN or Procedure Code field (Box 11). For eTARs the modifier is entered in the Modifiers Box of the Transportation Service Codes & Total Units field. Details related to the services may be required in the Enter Miscellaneous TAR Information field.

For dates of service on July 1, 2016 through August 26, 2018: applicable modifiers are entered in the Medical Justification field (Box 8C) of the paper TAR or the Enter Miscellaneous TAR Information field on the eTAR.

In order for the claim to be reimbursed, modifiers on the TAR and the claim must match.

All TARs for NEMT must be submitted to the TAR Processing Center at one of the following addresses:

Attn: TAR Processing Center
California MMIS Fiscal Intermediary
820 Stillwater Road
West Sacramento, CA  95605-1630

Attn: TAR Processing Center
California MMIS Fiscal Intermediary
P.O. Box 13029
Sacramento, CA  95813-4029
Prescription Requirements – Institutional Recipients

The prescription, or order sheet signed by the physician, submitted with a TAR must include the following:

- Purpose of the trip
- Frequency of necessary medical visits/trips or the inclusive dates of the requested medical transportation
- Medical or physical condition that makes normal public or private transportation inadvisable

**NOTE**

If transportation is requested on an ongoing basis, the chronic nature of a recipient's medical or physical condition must be indicated and a treatment plan from the physician or therapist must be included. A diagnosis alone will not satisfy this requirement.

Transport Acute Care Hospital to Long Term Care Facility

A TAR prescription or clinician signature is not required for non-emergency transportation from an acute care hospital to a long term care facility. This is the only exception to the TAR requirement for non-emergency medical transportation. This policy applies to transportation for recipients who received acute care as hospital in-patients who are being transferred to a Nursing Facility (NF) Level A or B. All other non-emergency medical transportation services with a different origin or destination other than as stated require a TAR.

Appropriate HCPCS codes for non-emergency transportation codes are:

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<tr>
<th>HCPCS Codes</th>
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<td>T2001</td>
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<td>T2005</td>
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Types of Ground Transportation

Three types of vehicles provide non-emergency medical transportation: ambulances, litter vans and wheelchair vans.

**Qualified Ambulance Recipients**

Ambulances are generally used in emergencies, but may provide non-emergency transport for certain types of recipients.

Non-emergency transport by ambulance can include:

- Transfers between facilities for recipients who require continuous IV medication or monitoring/observation
- Transfers from an acute care facility to another acute care facility
- Transport for recipients who have been placed on oxygen
- Transport for recipients with chronic conditions who require oxygen if monitoring is required
Non-Qualified Ambulance Recipients
Non-emergency transport by ambulance does not include:

- Recipients with chronic conditions who require oxygen, but do not require monitoring. Such recipients should be transported in a litter van or wheelchair van when all of the following criteria are met:
  - Cannot use public or private means of transportation
  - Clinically stable
  - Can transport upright in a litter van or wheelchair van
  - Able to self-monitor oxygen delivery
  - No other excluding conditions

Litter Van Recipients
Recipients who qualify for litter van transport include:

- Recipients in a spica cast
- Bed bound recipients
- Post-operative, stable recipients who cannot tolerate sitting upright for the time required for transport from pick-up point to destination
- Recipients with chronic conditions who require oxygen, but do not require monitoring

Wheelchair Van Recipients
Recipients who qualify for wheelchair van transport include:

- Recipients who suffer from severe mental confusion
- Recipients with paraplegia
- Dialysis recipients
- Recipients with chronic conditions who require oxygen, but do not require monitoring

Billing Information

Emergency and Non-Emergency Services
Emergency and non-emergency billing codes should not appear on the same claim form. Claims submitted with both emergency and non-emergency billing codes will be denied.

Trips with Multiple Recipients
If more than one recipient is transported to the same destination in the same vehicle from a common loading point, the medical transportation provider must indicate on a separate attachment, with each claim submitted, the following:

- Names of each recipient
- Medi-Cal ID numbers

This information is not allowed to be documented in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) on the CMS-1500 claim form or in the Remarks field (Box 80) on the UB-04 claim form. For each trip with multiple recipients, the medical transportation provider must bill Medi-Cal with the appropriate HCPCS code for each recipient and only on one claim for the following: A0380, A0420 and A0428.

For more billing information, refer to the Medical Transportation – Ground (mc tran gnd) section in the appropriate Part 2 provider manual.
Multiple Trips for Same Recipient

Multiple trips for the same recipient are provided on the same date of service. Enter the time of day and the points of destination in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the CMS-1500 claim. Without this information documented, second and subsequent trips may be denied as duplicate services.

Ground Mileage

For litter van and wheelchair van transport, use HCPCS code A0380 (BLS mileage [per mile]) for non-emergency services only.

For ambulance transportation mileage, use HCPCS code A0425 (ground mileage, per statute mile) when billing mileage for both emergency and non-emergency services.

Mileage Documentation

When billing mileage, use either A0380 or A0425 as appropriate. Be sure to show the total miles from point of recipient pick-up to destination (and return mileage for round-trip billing) in the Days or Units field (Box 24G). The complete origination and destination addresses, including city and ZIP code, must be indicated in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the CMS-1500 claim.

If the origination or destination address is not available, the following types of origination and/or destination sites are reimbursable when accompanied with documentation that the emergency occurred in an area where no specific address is available:

- Interstate, highway or freeway
- Indian lands and reservations
- Bodies of water and shorelines
- Campgrounds
- State and national parks and recreation areas
- Mountains
- Deserts
- Farms and ranch land

Include a description of the location, either in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) or on an attachment.
Night Calls

Night calls (transportation responses between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.) start at the time of the unit alert and end upon arrival at the destination with the recipient onboard. Night calls may be reimbursed in any of the following transport scenarios:

- Transport starts during the day and ends at night
- Entire transport occurs at night
- Transport starts at night and ends during the day

Night Call TAR documentation

When requesting authorization for transportation services between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m., providers will need to use the appropriate HCPCS code and notation for night call service, along with the start and stop time of service in the Medical Justification field (Box 8C) of the TAR.

Night Call Claim Documentation

When billing for transport services between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. providers will need to use the appropriate HCPCS code with modifier UJ (services provided at night). Indicate the start and stop time in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the CMS-1500 claim form or on an attachment.

Dry Run

Medical ground transportation providers may be reimbursed for responding to a call (emergency or non-emergency) but not transporting the recipient (dry run). When applicable, bill for a dry run with the appropriate HCPCS code for transport and appending both modifiers DS followed by HN.

If the ground transportation response occurs between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. (night call) and the recipient is not transported (dry run), providers may bill by appending modifier UJ and indicate in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the CMS-1500 claim form the time of service. No other modifiers or service lines may be billed on the claim.

NOTE

For night call dry run transport, the night call starts at the time of unit alert and ends upon leaving the scene without the recipient onboard.

Dry Run – Acute Care to Long Term Care Facility

Providers may be reimbursed for responding to a transport request from an acute care hospital to a Nursing Facility (NF) Level A or B without transporting the recipient (dry run). Providers must bill using HCPCS codes listed below with modifier HN followed by modifier QN.
Providers must bill using the following HCPCS codes. No other modifiers or service lines may be billed on claim.

| A0130 | A0426 | A0428 | T2005 |

**NOTE**
Services do not require a TAR.

**Dry Run Emergency Statements Differ**
Effective retroactively for dates of service on or after April 1, 2016, when completing the emergency statement for air or ground medical transportation for dry runs, providers no longer need to include the following because a dry run transport has no accepting hospital or physician.

- Name of hospital to which a recipient was transported
- Name of the physician accepting responsibility for the recipient

**Dry Run Mileage Reimbursement**
Dry run transport and mileage are not reimbursable for the same day, same recipient and same provider unless documentation states that billed mileage was for an actual medical transport at a different time on the date of service.

**Waiting Time**
Providers may bill for medical ground transportation waiting time in excess of the first 15 minutes using either HCPCS code A0420 or HCPCS code T2007. Waiting time in excess of one and a half hours will not be reimbursed. Providers must document the clock time when the wait began and ended in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the claim or attachment. Wait time charges are to be billed only for time spent while waiting to load the recipient. Charges for any other situation will not be reimbursed.
Medical Transportation Modifiers

New TAR Submission Changes for NEMT Services

TAR Submission

As of August 27, 2018, providers are able to include up to four modifiers with a service code, if applicable, when submitting a NEMT TAR. Modifiers can be included for TARs submitted electronically or paper.

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<th>Modifiers (if applicable)</th>
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TAR Submission with Modifiers Field

TAR and Claim Submissions

For dates of service on or after November 1, 2018, claims submitted for NEMT services that include modifiers must include the modifiers in the Modifiers field(s) when submitting a TAR. All NEMT claims that include modifiers must have an approved TAR with matching modifier(s). Claims that include modifiers not supported by the TAR will be denied.

HCPCS codes and modifiers provide a more accurate picture of services rendered. Using the correct codes and modifiers is critical for receiving accurate claim reimbursements. Inappropriate or unnecessary modifier use may result in claim denial or delayed reimbursements.

Modifier 99 Disallowed

Providers are reminded that modifier 99 (multiple modifiers) is not allowed in conjunction with procedure codes associated with non-emergency medical transportation. Claims submitted with modifier 99 will be denied.

SARS Not Impacted

Service Authorization Requests (SARs) submitted by California Children’s Services and Genetically Handicapped Persons Program providers are not impacted by this authorization update. Modifiers are not required on SARs.
Non-Emergency Ground Transportation Billing Scenario

In this billing scenario, the medical transport company is billing for a non-emergency trip from the recipient’s home to a dialysis clinic and back.

Referring Physician’s name/NPI required because written prescription from recipient’s physician required non-emergency transport to/from dialysis clinic (Box 23).

Approved TAR is required for non-emergency transportation.

Description of trip required. Include times recipient was picked up for each trip on an attachment.

Include complete origination/destination, including the zip code, when billing for mileage in the Remarks Area field or on an attachment.

NOTES

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Non-Medical Transportation (NMT)

Effective for dates of service on or after July 1, 2018, non-medical transportation (NMT) is covered for eligible full-scope Medi-Cal fee-for-service recipients and pregnant women during pregnancy and for 60 days postpartum, including any remaining days in the month in which the 60th postpartum day falls. NMT includes transporting recipients to and from the following Medi-Cal covered services:

- Medical
- Mental health
- Substance abuse
- Dental

_**Welfare and Institutions Code** (W&I Code) Section 14132 (ad) defines NMT as including, at minimum, round trip transportation for a recipient to obtain covered Medi-Cal services by passenger car, taxicab, or any other form of public or private conveyance.

NMT does not include the transportation of sick, injured, invalid, convalescent, infirm or otherwise incapacitated recipients by ambulances, litter vans or wheelchair vans licensed, operated and equipped in accordance with state and local statutes, ordinances or regulations, as these would be covered as NEMT services.

Enrolling as an NMT Provider

Effective June 15, 2018, transportation providers currently enrolled in Medi-Cal as NEMT providers who wish to provide NMT services may request to become a NMT provider. Current NEMT providers must submit a completed _Medi-Cal Supplemental Changes_ (DHCS 6209) form. NEMT providers requesting to “add” NMT services should state so in the “Other Information” section of the DHCS 6209 form. NEMT providers wishing to use already reported NEMT vehicles to provide NMT services must also report that to the department in the “Other Information” section of the DHCS 6209 and submit a letter stating they will use existing NEMT vehicles and drivers previously approved by DHCS. Only enrolled providers who have been approved by DHCS to render NMT services may bill for NMT. The effective date of enrollment for approved NMT services will be retroactive to the date a complete application was submitted.

For additional information and application requirements, refer to the _Medical Transportation – Ground_ (mc tran gnd) section in the appropriate Part 2 provider manual.
Authorization

A TAR is **not** required for NMT. The NMT provider must verify that the recipient meets the eligibility criteria and needs transportation to a Medi-Cal covered service.

Billing Non-Medical Transportation

NMT services must be billed with the following HCPCS codes:

- A0120 – Non-emergency transportation, mini bus, mountain area transports, or other transportation systems.
- A0390 – ALS mileage (per mile)

Non-Medical Transportation Billing Scenario

In this billing scenario, the medical transport company is billing for a trip from the patient’s home to a medical clinic and back.

Include complete origination/destination and include times patient was picked up for each trip. Include zip code when billing for mileage in the Remarks Area field or on an attachment.

Box 23 TAR is not required for NMT (Box 23).

A0120 is for mini-bus, mountain area, or other transportation. A0390 mileage billed on per mile basis.
Air Medical Transportation

Provider Enrollment Requirements

Transportation providers who wish to render air medical transportation services to Medi-Cal recipients must first be certified by DHCS. Providers must also have a specific air transportation provider type, which requires certification by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

NOTE
Providers cannot bill Medi-Cal for air medical transportations if they are only a ground medical transportation provider type.

Air Ambulance

An air ambulance is any aircraft specifically constructed, modified or equipped and used primarily for responding to emergency calls and to transport critically ill or injured recipients. Air ambulances must have two medical flight crew members who are certified or licensed in advanced life support.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for medical transportation services, a recipient must be eligible for Medi-Cal on the date of service.

Transport Type

Authorization shall be granted or Medi-Cal reimbursement shall be approved only for the lowest cost type of medical transportation that is adequate for the recipient’s medical needs, and is available at the time transportation is required (CCR, Title 22, Section 51323[b]).

Maintaining Transportation Records

Medical transportation providers are required to follow federal and state requirements when billing for services, as well as maintain supporting documentation for drivers and vehicles associated with medical transportation services. Medical transportation providers must keep, maintain and have readily retrievable records to fully disclose the type and extent of services provided in addition to maintaining supporting documentation for drivers and vehicles (CCR, Title 22, Section 51476, 51476, 51231, 51231.1 and 51231.2).
Emergency Air Medical Transportation

Medi-Cal covers emergency air medical transportation to the nearest hospital or acute care facility capable of meeting a recipient’s needs is covered under the following conditions:

- Such transportation is medically necessary; and,
- The medical condition of the recipient precludes the use of other forms of medical transportation; or,
- The recipient’s location, or the nearest hospital or acute care facility capable of meeting a recipient’s medical needs, is inaccessible to ground medical transportation; or,
- Other considerations make ground medical transportation not feasible.

Services rendered by a provider other than the closest available air medical transportation provider require submission and approval of a TAR. HCPCS codes A0430 (ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one way [fixed wing]) and A0431 (ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one way [rotary wing]) do not require a TAR if the closest available provider renders the emergency medical transportation.

NOTES
Out-of-State Emergency Restrictions
Out-of-state emergency air medical transportation services are not reimbursable unless a TAR is obtained based on the following policy:

- Emergency air medical transporting the recipient to the nearest available facility capable of treating the recipient’s needs (CCR, Title 22, Section 51323 [b] [1]).
- Only emergency hospital services are Medi-Cal benefits for recipients while they are in Mexico or Canada (CCR, Title 22, Section 51006 [b]).
- Out-of-state emergency air medical transportation services are Medi-Cal benefits without authorization only to or from specific border communities within Arizona, Nevada or Oregon.

Transportation to and from Foreign Countries
Claims for medical transportation services to or from a foreign country, including Mexico and Canada, are not covered and will not be reimbursed.

Helicopter Transportation
When submitting a TAR for helicopter transport, a statement signed by the air transport operator or chief pilot that the use of a fixed wing aircraft or combination of fixed wing aircraft and ground transport is not operationally feasible, must be included.

Out-of-state emergency air medical transportation services are only reimbursable with an approved TAR.

NOTES
Patient on Board Miles
Air ambulance one-way recipient miles must be billed in statute miles, and not in nautical miles. Mileage must be calculated with Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates from point of takeoff to point of landing.

The GPS coordinates of takeoff and landing points must be documented in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) on the CMS-1500 claim form or an attachment, using the degrees, minutes and decimal minutes (DD:MM.MMM) format only.

Providers should bill for the actual miles flown, even if this exceeds the straight-line distance between point of takeoff and point of landing.

Air Mileage Greater than 999 Miles
A maximum of 999 statute miles may be billed on one claim line. For distances greater than 999 statute miles, use multiple claim lines.

NOTE
For complete information about air medical transportation, please refer to the Medical Transportation – Air (mc tran air) section in the appropriate Part 2 provider manual.
Emergency Air Transportation Billing Scenario

In this billing scenario, an emergency air transport is being billed.

Air mileage must include (GPS) coordinates point of takeoff/landing using degrees, minutes and decimal minutes (DD.MM.MMM).

Include "X" indicator in the EMG field (Box 24D) and include emergency statement in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19), or attachment.

Max. 999 statute miles billed on one claim line. In this example, total miles are split-billed onto three claim lines.
Knowledge Review

1. To receive reimbursement, a recipient must be eligible for Medi-Cal on the date of service.
   True ☐  False ☐

2. The statement of emergency must be typed or printed.
   True ☐  False ☐

3. Acronyms or abbreviations are acceptable when documenting a hospital’s name on the emergency statement.
   Acronyms ☐  Abbreviations ☐

4. The only exception to not having to obtain a TAR for non-emergency transportation is transporting a recipient from Acute Care Hospital to a Long Term Care Nursing Facility Level A or B.
   True ☐  False ☐

5. Emergency and non-emergency billing codes may appear on the same claim form as long as you include documentation.
   True ☐  False ☐

6. Transportation TARs that require modifiers will now be required to be documented in the designated Modifiers field(s) on the TAR(s) and no longer entered in the Enter Miscellaneous TAR Information box or Medical Justification field.
   True ☐  False ☐

Answer Key: 1) True; 2) True; 3) Abbreviations; 4) True; 5) False; 6) True
Resource Information

References
The following reference materials provide Medi-Cal program and eligibility information.

Provider Manual References

Part 1
Aid Codes Master Chart (aid codes)
OBRA and IRCA (obra)

Part 2
Ancillary Codes (ancil cod)
CMS-1500 Completion (cms comp)
Medical Transportation – Air (mc tran air)
Medical Transportation – Air: Billing Codes and Reimbursement Rates (mc tran air cd)
Medical Transportation – Air: Billing Examples (mc tran air ex)
Medical Transportation – Ground (mc tran gnd)
Medical Transportation – Ground: Billing Codes and Reimbursement Rates (mc tran gnd cd)
Medical Transportation – Ground: Billing Examples (mc tran gnd ex)
Modifier Approved (modif app)
TAR and Non-Benefit List (tar and non)
TAR Completion (tar comp)

Other References
Medi-Cal website: (www.medi-cal.ca.gov)
Medical Transportation Code Conversion Table. To access, select the "Code Conversions" link under the "Hot News" section of the Medi-Cal website, and then select "Medical Transportation."
Appendix

### Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAL-POS</td>
<td>California Point of Service Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCS</td>
<td>California Children’s Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC</td>
<td>Computer Media Claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COHS</td>
<td>County Organized Health Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHCS</td>
<td>Department of Health Care Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FI</td>
<td>Fiscal Intermediary; contractor for DHCS responsible for claims processing, provider services, and other fiscal operations of the Medi-Cal program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCPCS</td>
<td>Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIPAA</td>
<td>Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Identification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRCA</td>
<td>Immigration Reform and Control Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTC</td>
<td>Long Term Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEMT</td>
<td>Non-Emergency Medical Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMT</td>
<td>Non-Medical Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPI</td>
<td>National Provider Identifier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBRA</td>
<td>Federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHP</td>
<td>Prepaid Health Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS</td>
<td>Point of Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTN</td>
<td>Provider Telecommunications Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAR</td>
<td>Service Authorization Request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNF</td>
<td>Skilled Nursing Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAR</td>
<td>Treatment Authorization Request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TSC</td>
<td>Telephone Service Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Medical Transportation Billing Codes

## AMBULANCE TRANSPORTATION

### Response to Call

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Modifier(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Maximum Allowance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93005 ±</td>
<td></td>
<td>Electrocardiogram, routine ECG with at least 12 leads; tracing only, without interpretation and report</td>
<td>$ 7.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93041 ±</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rhythm ECG, 1 to 3 leads, tracing only without interpretation and report</td>
<td>16.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0225 * †</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ambulance service; neonatal transport, base rate, emergency transport, one way</td>
<td>179.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td></td>
<td>189.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Modifier(s)</td>
<td>Maximum Allowance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0420 *</td>
<td>Ambulance waiting time (ALS or BLS) one half (½) hour increments</td>
<td></td>
<td>19.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0422 *</td>
<td>Ambulance (ALS or BLS) oxygen and oxygen supplies, life sustaining situation</td>
<td></td>
<td>9.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0424 * †††</td>
<td>Extra ambulance attendant, ground (ALS or BLS) or air (fixed or rotary winged); (requires medical review) (per hour)</td>
<td></td>
<td>16.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0425 *</td>
<td>Ground mileage, per statute mile (use for ambulance transports only)</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0426 *</td>
<td>Ambulance service, advanced life support, non-emergency transport, level 1 (ALS 1).</td>
<td></td>
<td>107.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0427 *</td>
<td>Ambulance service, advanced life support, emergency transport, level 1 (ALS1-emergency)</td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>118.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>117.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>101.06 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>128.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN, UJ</td>
<td>106.00 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0428 *</td>
<td>Ambulance service, basic life support, non-emergency transport (BLS)</td>
<td></td>
<td>107.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0429 *</td>
<td>Ambulance service, basic life support, emergency transport (BLS-emergency)</td>
<td></td>
<td>118.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>101.06 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>128.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN, UJ</td>
<td>106.00 per patient</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This HCPCS code may be used only by providers of ambulance services certified by the California Highway Patrol and staffed in accordance with state regulations.

††† Billed per hour. Refer to the Medical Transportation – Ground section in this manual for additional information.
This HCPCS code may be used only by providers of ambulance services certified by the California Highway Patrol and staffed in accordance with state regulations.

Providers billing for code A0999 must itemize all supplies billed and attach a manufacturer or supplier invoice showing the wholesale price. An internal company invoice or catalog page is not acceptable. The contents of any kit billed with code A0999 must be listed in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the claim or on an attachment. Identify items billed on the invoice with an underline, check mark or circle (not a highlighting pen), or the claim may be denied for inadequate documentation.

Use of compressed air in conjunction with an incubator is separately reimbursable under code A0999 only as a power or drive source; use of compressed air as a source of ambient atmosphere within an incubator (“medical compressed air”) is not separately reimbursable.

Billing for code A0999 for organ procurement requires an invoice from the Organ Procurement Organization. For more information, refer to the “Invoice with Claim: Solid Organ” area of this manual’s Transplants section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Modifier(s)</th>
<th>Maximum Allowance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A0433 *</td>
<td>Advanced life support, level 2 (ALS2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>118.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>101.06 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>128.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN, UJ</td>
<td>106.00 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0434 *</td>
<td>Specialty care transport (SCT)</td>
<td></td>
<td>118.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>101.06 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>128.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN, UJ</td>
<td>106.00 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0999 * ††</td>
<td></td>
<td>†</td>
<td>Unlisted ambulance service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHEELCHAIR VAN
AND LITTER VAN
TRANSPORTATION

Response to Call –
Non-litter Patient

The following services require a TAR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Modifier(s)</th>
<th>Maximum Allowance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A0130</td>
<td>Non-emergency transportation: wheelchair van</td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>$17.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>23.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>14.10 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>11.17 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UQ</td>
<td>10.01 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UR</td>
<td>10.01 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>US</td>
<td>10.01 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0380</td>
<td>BLS mileage (per mile) (use for wheelchair and litter van transports only)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0422</td>
<td>Ambulance (ALS or BLS) oxygen and oxygen supplies, life sustaining situation</td>
<td></td>
<td>9.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This HCPCS code may be used only by providers of ambulance services certified by the California Highway Patrol and staffed in accordance with state regulations.
### Code | Description | Modifier(s) | Maximum Allowance
--- | --- | --- | ---
A0999 * †† || † | Unlisted ambulance service | | By Report
T2001 | Non-emergency transportation; patient attendant/escort | | 5.52
T2005 | Non-emergency transportation: stretcher van | | UJ
| | | 26.29
| | | 32.42
T2007 ‡ | Transportation waiting time, air ambulance, and non-emergency vehicle, one-half (1/2) hour increments | | 11.30

* This HCPCS code may be used only by providers of ambulance services certified by the California Highway Patrol and staffed in accordance with state regulations.

†† Providers billing for code A0999 must itemize all supplies billed and attach a manufacturer or supplier invoice showing the wholesale price. An internal company invoice or catalog page is not acceptable. The contents of any kit billed with code A0999 must be listed in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the claim or on an attachment. Identify items billed on the invoice with an underline, check mark or circle (not a highlighting pen), or the claim may be denied for inadequate documentation.

† Use of compressed air in conjunction with an incubator is separately reimbursable under code A0999 only as a power or drive source; use of compressed air as a source of ambient atmosphere within an incubator (“medical compressed air”) is not separately reimbursable.

‖ Billing for code A0999 for organ procurement requires an invoice from the Organ Procurement Organization. For more information, refer to the “Invoice with Claim: Solid Organ” area of this manual’s Transplants section.

‡ Reimbursable for a maximum of 90 minutes, except in cases where the patient is a neonate. Refer to the Medical Transportation – Ground section in this manual for additional information.
Medical Transportation Services

NON-EMERGENCY PATIENT TRANSFER FROM ACUTE CARE FACILITY TO NURSING FACILITY LEVELS A/B

Treatment Authorization Request The following services do not require a TAR when billed with modifiers HN and QN.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Modifier(s)</th>
<th>Maximum Allowance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A0130</td>
<td>Non-emergency transportation: wheelchair van</td>
<td>HN, QN</td>
<td>$ 17.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0380</td>
<td>BLS mileage (per mile) (use for wheelchair and litter van transports only)</td>
<td>HN, QN</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0422</td>
<td>Ambulance (ALS or BLS) oxygen and oxygen supplies, life sustaining situation.</td>
<td>HN, QN</td>
<td>9.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0425</td>
<td>Ground mileage, per statute mile (use for ambulance transports only)</td>
<td>HN, QN</td>
<td>3.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0426</td>
<td>Ambulance service, advanced life support, non-emergency transport, level 1 (ALS1)</td>
<td>HN, QN</td>
<td>107.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0428</td>
<td>Ambulance service, basic life support, non-emergency transport (BLS)</td>
<td>HN, QN</td>
<td>107.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0999 * ††</td>
<td></td>
<td>†</td>
<td>Unlisted ambulance service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2001</td>
<td>Non-emergency transportation; patient attendant/escort</td>
<td>HN, QN</td>
<td>5.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2005</td>
<td>Non-emergency transportation: stretcher van</td>
<td>HN, QN</td>
<td>26.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This HCPCS code may be used only by providers of ambulance services certified by the California Highway Patrol and staffed in accordance with state regulations.

†† Providers billing for code A0999 must itemize all supplies billed and attach a manufacturer or supplier invoice showing the wholesale price. An internal company invoice or catalog page is not acceptable. The contents of any kit billed with code A0999 must be listed in the Additional Claim Information field (Box 19) of the claim or on an attachment. Identify items billed on the invoice with an underline, check mark or circle (not a highlighting pen), or the claim may be denied for inadequate documentation.

† Use of compressed air in conjunction with an incubator is separately reimbursable under code A0999 only as a power or drive source; use of compressed air as a source of ambient atmosphere within an incubator (“medical compressed air”) is not separately reimbursable.

|| Billing for code A0999 for organ procurement requires an invoice from the Organ Procurement Organization. For more information, refer to the “Invoice with Claim: Solid Organ” area of this manual’s Transplants section.
## Response to Call

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Modifier(s)</th>
<th>Maximum Allowance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A0120</td>
<td>Non-emergency transportation: mini-bus, mountain area transports, or other transportation systems</td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>$17.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UN</td>
<td>23.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>14.10 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UQ</td>
<td>11.17 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UR</td>
<td>10.01 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>US</td>
<td>10.01 per patient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0390</td>
<td>ALS mileage (per mile)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.65</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Codes and Rates

Air medical transportation services are reimbursed as listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HCPCS Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Modifier(s)</th>
<th>Maximum Allowance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A0422 *</td>
<td>Ambulance (ALS or BLS) oxygen and oxygen supplies, life sustaining situation</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 9.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0424 * † †</td>
<td>Extra ambulance attendant, air (fixed or rotary winged), (per hour)</td>
<td></td>
<td>16.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0430 *</td>
<td>Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport one way (fixed wing)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,275.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0430 *</td>
<td>Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport one way (fixed wing)</td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>1,375.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0431 *</td>
<td>Ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one way (rotary wing)</td>
<td>UJ</td>
<td>1,900.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0435 *</td>
<td>Fixed wing air mileage, per statute mile</td>
<td></td>
<td>14.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0436 *</td>
<td>Rotary wing air mileage, per statute mile</td>
<td></td>
<td>22.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0999 * †</td>
<td>Unlisted ambulance service</td>
<td>By Report</td>
<td>51.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use A0999 to bill for neonatal intensive care incubator (air transport)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use A0999 to bill for compressed air for infant respirator (air transport)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2007 * ‡ ‡</td>
<td>Transportation waiting time, air ambulance, and non-emergency vehicle, one-half (1/2) hour increments</td>
<td>TU</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

* A TAR is required for all non-emergency services.

†† Use of compressed air in conjunction with an incubator is separately reimbursable under code A0999 only as a power or drive source; use of compressed air as a source of ambient atmosphere within an incubator ("medical compressed air") is not separately reimbursable. Providers billing for code A0999 must indicate all supplies billed on an attached manufacturer or supplier invoice showing the wholesale price. An internal company invoice or catalog page is not acceptable.

†† Billed per hour. Refer to the Medical Transportation – Air section in this manual for additional information.