



BlueCross BlueShield  
of Texas

**EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS WITH SURGICAL PROCEDURES  
CAG1105.018**

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SECTION: Administrative  
SUBSECTION: Claims Adjudication  
SUBJECT: Emergency Department Visits with Surgical Procedures

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CHECK CONTRACT:  
Check all appropriate contract provisions

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CODING DESCRIPTION: (See CPT or HCPCS Manual for full descriptions)

99281, 99282, 99283, 99284, 99285: Emergency department visit

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**RATIONALE:**

Emergency department visit codes, 99281-99285, may be allowed separately when submitted with a surgical procedure on the same date of service by the same provider who performs a surgical procedure. This allows the physician to be compensated for the history and physical necessary when a patient is seen in the emergency department, and requires surgery on the same day. Other Evaluation and Management codes submitted in conjunction with a surgical procedure on the same date of service will be denied as part of the surgical package.

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**RELATED GUIDELINES:**

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**DISCLAIMER:**

State and federal law, as well as contract language, including definitions and specific inclusions/exclusions, takes precedence over Claim Adjudication Guidelines and must be considered first in determining coverage. The member's contract benefits in effect on the date that services are rendered must be used. Any benefits are subject to the payment of premiums for the date on which services are rendered. Medical technology is constantly evolving, and we reserve the right to review and update Claim Adjudication Guidelines periodically.

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