
Acu-Care to the Point

CONTRACT UPDATES

October 2005

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Greetings,

Greetings from all of us at AcuCare! We are pleased to communicate with you via our first issue of Acu-Care to the Point on line.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our current relationship with Interplan and to provide you with other relevant information regarding Acu-Care and our contracted insurance companies.

Interplan Health Group

As you may remember, I wrote in June informing you that we requested removal of our members from the Interplan network, and were told that this would be done by the beginning of September. However, we have received a communication from Interplan's contract managers that our contract reads that we must stay with them for 24 months before we can terminate "without a cause". I explained to Interplan that the policy of Acu-Care network is to give our members the option to stay contracted or to be removed from each contract, at their preference.

We have just received a proposal from Interplan to increase the reimbursement rates. I feel that these rates are fair and result in a net compensation for Acupuncture of \$89.12, Electro Stimulation with Acupuncture will be reimbursed at \$97.69, Office Visit, E&M codes, Massage and Hot and Cold Packs are also reimbursed fairly. I enclose the exact rates for your information and consideration. Based on their latest proposal, I feel it will be best for our network members to stay with Interplan. However, if any of you is not satisfied with these rates or wishes to be removed from the Interplan network please notify Marcia immediately. New Payer Summary reflecting the new rates will be posted soon on our website. We request that you download one and returned a signed copy to us.

CPT Codes and Reimbursement Rates for Interplan

- Acupuncture/First 15 minutes—97810/ \$50.38
- Acupuncture/Reinsertion/Addt'l. 15 min—97811/\$38.74
- Acupuncture Electro Stim/First 15 min—97813/\$53.89
- Acupuncture Electro Stim/Addt'l. 15 min— 97814/\$43.80
- Office Visit Evaluation—99201/\$48.58
- Office Visit Focused Expanded—99202/ \$86.06
- Office Visit Detailed Expanded—99203/ \$127.79
- Office Visit Complex Expanded—99204/ \$180.64
- Office Visit or Other Outpatient Visit—99211/\$28.83
- Office Visit Established Patient—99212/ \$51.16
- Office Visit Established Expanded—99213/\$69.78
- Office Visit Established Complex—99214/\$109.30
- Hot and Cold Treat (one area)—97010/ \$5.90
- Neuromuscular Re-education—97112/ \$38.97
- Unlisted Therapeutic Procedure—97139/ \$21.06

As always we are here to serve your needs. If you would like additional information or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our office at (888)510-2273 (CARE).

Cigna HealthCare of California

We were hoping to bring you some news regarding Cigna and the new CPT codes, but have not received confirmation that they are loaded into Cigna's system as yet. Until such time, please continue billing Cigna using the old acupuncture codes and you will be reimbursed according to same rate prevailing last year. Cigna has informed us that claims that were submitted to Cigna using the new codes, and consequently not paid according to the Acu-Care negotiated rates, can be re-billed using the OLD codes. Cigna will pay you an additional amount, bringing your total reimbursement to the Acu-Care negotiated rates.

MultiPlan

In regards to the Multiplan issues, as you know our amendment to the contract is now in effect and the discounted rate should be only 10% from billed prices.

If you are receiving a lower reimbursement, please contact the Multiplan representative Claudia Aechternacht at (512) 264-9191 and notify Marcia, at (888) 510-2273, in our office as well.

We hope you like receiving Acu-Care's updates online. Please feel free to give us your feedback through the response system activated by clicking on the Acu-Care email address.

If you do not wish to receive this timely version of Acu-Care to the Point, you may unsubscribe at any time by clicking on the "unsubscribe button" at the bottom of this e-letter and we will send you a letter by mail.

In Good Health,
Ilan Migdali, L.Ac
President

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