



Reimbursement Policy

Subject: Hysterectomy

Effective Date: **08/03/18**

Committee Approval Obtained:
08/03/18

Section: **Surgery**

*****The most current version of the 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>. Under Quick Tools, select Reimbursement Policies > Medicare. *****

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 Medicare Advantage benefit plan. 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 participating providers and facilities; a non-contracting provider who accepts Medicare assignment will be reimbursed for services according to the original Medicare reimbursement rates.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Amerigroup Medicare Advantage may:

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

Amerigroup Medicare Advantage reimbursement policies 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 These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements.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 Medicare Advantage strives to minimize these variations.

Amerigroup Medicare Advantage 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 Medicare Advantage allows reimbursement of nonelective and medically necessary hysterectomy procedures for covered members unless provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise. Reimbursement is based on the applicable fee schedule or contracted/negotiated rate.

Amerigroup Medicare Advantage considers reimbursement for a hysterectomy only when the following criteria is met:

- The hysterectomy is medically necessary to treat an illness or injury.
- The member has given informed consent.
- The member or authorized representative is fully aware that the hysterectomy will render the member permanently incapable of reproducing, and has orally and in writing expressed this understanding.
- The member or authorized representative has signed and dated an applicable consent/acknowledgement of hysterectomy form. The form is required regardless of the member's diagnosis or age.

Note: If the member was already sterile before the hysterectomy or if the individual required a hysterectomy because of a life threatening emergency situation in which the physician determined that prior consent/acknowledgement was not possible:

- The consent/acknowledgement of hysterectomy form with the physician's certification will be required.
- The member's informed consent/acknowledgement of hysterectomy will not be required.

Amerigroup Medicare Advantage does not require informed consent/acknowledgement of hysterectomy forms to be submitted with claims.

A valid consent/acknowledgement of hysterectomy form has to be properly executed and include all required signatures:

- Member, except as noted
- Person obtaining the member's consent
- The physician performing the hysterectomy

If a hysterectomy is performed in conjunction with a delivery, then multiple surgery guidelines apply (refer to the Anthem Medicare Advantage Multiple and Bilateral Surgery policy).

Nonreimbursable:

Amerigroup Medicare Advantage does not allow reimbursement of a hysterectomy in the following circumstances:

- The hysterectomy is performed for the sole purpose of rendering the member permanently incapable of reproduction.
- There is more than one reason for the hysterectomy, but the primary reason is to render the member permanently incapable of reproduction.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hysterectomy is performed for the purpose of cancer prophylaxis.
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biennial review approved 08/03/18: Policy language updated Biennial review approved and effective 07/14/16: Policy template updated Review approved 04/27/15: Policy template and history section updated Initial approval effective 01/01/15
References and Research Materials	<p>This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMS State contract American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Code of Federal Regulations Subpart F — Sterilizations §441.250-§441.258
Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Reimbursement Policy Definitions
Related Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple and Bilateral Surgery: Professional and Facility Reimbursement
Related Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None