

Anticipate MIPS Performance Issues for 2021?

If you are anticipating low MIPS scores for this year or difficulty with MIPS reporting, you have until December 31, 2021 to file for an exception due to the COVID 19 public health emergency. If granted, you will be excused from reporting any measures at all for this year and will not experience a negative payment adjustment for the 2023 payment year, but will receive the Medicare base fee schedule for 2023. You will not likely to be denied and will know within seconds if you have been granted an exception. [CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)

If you had problems with your 2020 reporting and are facing a possible downward adjustment for 2022, you have until November 29, 2021 to ask for a retroactive exception for the 2020 measurement year through the Targeted Review Form. See how to access your 2020 Performance Feedback and the review form. [CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)

Coding for Network Success: Reviewing Obesity Reporting

	BMI code	Weight-related diagnosis	
BMI 35 otherwise healthy	Z68.35	Other Obesity due to excess calories	E66.09
BMI 35 with at least 1 comorbidity	Z68.35	Morbid Obesity due to excess calorie	E66.01
BMI 40	Z68.41	Morbid Obesity due to excess calorie	E66.01
No BMI but MD documented morbid obesity	no code reported	Morbid Obesity due to excess calorie	E66.01

Coding data from our network paid claims and NIH statistics continue to indicate that nearly half of obesity diagnoses are not being properly reported in our patients.

- Coding rules, a part of the HIPAA law, were updated in 2018 to state that BMI Z codes from ICD-10 should not be reported without documentation of weight-related E code diagnoses, whether they indicate overweight or underweight.
- A provider clinical diagnosis of morbid obesity may be reported on a claim without a BMI. For a patient too large to be weighed in the office, a provider-reported morbid obesity diagnosis can stand alone. ICD-10-CM coding rules for coding weight-related diagnoses state that additional codes for BMI may be coded, if known.
- Co-morbidities should be factored in when considering a diagnosis of obesity vs morbid obesity.
- Appropriate reporting of morbid obesity can significantly increase risk adjustment, and consequently, opportunity for shared savings in value-based contracts. It can also positively affect your MIPS scoring for Cost.

MetroCare Board Election Results

We thank those of you who responded to our October Annual Meeting email. The board election response easily reached quorum numbers.

The following current board members were re-elected to another three year term:

Lanetta Anderson, MD	Obstetrics & Gynecology
Neal Beckford, MD	Otolaryngology
C Christopher Hanson, MD	Pediatrics
R Riley Jones, MD	Orthopaedics
T Carter Towne, MD	Gastroenterology
Catherine Womack, MD	Internal Medicine

Again, we thank Dr. Neal Aguillard for his years of service on the MetroCare Physicians board.

**MLH Health Plan 2022
Formulary Updates** [click here](#)

Upcoming Programs of Interest

In November, we host two important programs of special interest to practice administrators and compliance officers.

Nov 18 Noon **Coding and Billing Compliance and Self Audits**

Nov 19 1PM **Reviewing Practice Compliance Plans**

2022 CPT Procedure Coding Updates in December

Join us to prepare for the 2022 CPT4 changes and discussion of coding compliance issues.

Four identical sessions are available for your convenience:

Dec 8 9 AM or 1 PM

Dec 10 9 AM or 1 PM

Free Boot Camp Returns in January

Join us for three full days of intensive coding training in Anatomy and Medical Terminology, ICD-10-CM, CPT4 and Modifiers, and a fourth day of review and optional certification test prep

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS OUR ACTIVITY CALENDAR](#)

We Are Here to Assist You

A dedicated team of professionals is committed to assuring MetroCare physicians have the tools and resources to achieve success with the changes required by transition to value-based healthcare.

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Education/Event Calendar



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