

**Integrated OCE (IOCE)
CMS Specifications
V10.2 - Effective 07/01/09**

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Introduction

This ‘integrated’ OCE program processes claims for outpatient institutional providers including hospitals that are subject to the Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) as well as hospitals that are NOT (Non-OPPS). The Fiscal Intermediary/Medicare Administrative Contractor (FI/MAC) will identify the claim as ‘OPPS’ or ‘Non-OPPS’ by passing a flag to the OCE in the claim record, 1=OPPS, 2=Non-OPPS; a blank, zero, or any other value is defaulted to 1.

This version of the OCE processes claims consisting of multiple days of service. The OCE will perform three major functions:

Edit the data to identify errors and return a series of edit flags.

Assign an Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) number for each service covered under OPPS, and return information to be used as input to an OPPS PRICER program.

Assign an Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) payment group for qualifying services on claims from certain Non-OPPS hospitals (bill type 83x) – in the PC program/interface only [v8.2 – v8.3 only].

Each claim will be represented by a collection of data, which will consist of all necessary demographic (header) data, plus all services provided (line items). It will be the user’s responsibility to organize all applicable services into a single claim record, and pass them as a unit to the OCE. The OCE only functions on a single claim and does not have any cross claim capabilities. The OCE will accept up to 450 line items per claim. The OCE software is responsible for ordering line items by date of service.

The OCE not only identifies individual errors but also indicates what actions should be taken and the reasons why these actions are necessary. In order to accommodate this functionality, the OCE is structured to return lists of edit numbers. This structure facilitates the linkage between the actions being taken, the reasons for the actions and the information on the claim (e.g., a specific diagnosis) that caused the action.

In general, the OCE performs all functions that require specific reference to HCPCS codes, HCPCS modifiers and ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes. Since these coding systems are complex and annually updated, the centralization of the direct reference to these codes and modifiers in a single program will reduce effort and reduce the chance of inconsistent processing.

The span of time that a claim represents will be controlled by the **From** and **Through** dates that will be part of the input header information. If the claim spans more than one calendar day, the OCE will subdivide the claim into separate days for the purpose of determining discounting and multiple visits on the same calendar day.

Some edits are date driven. For example, Bilateral Procedure is considered an error if a pair of procedures is coded with the same service date, but not if the service dates are different.

The Control Block

Information is passed to the OCE by means of a control block of pointers. Table 1 contains the structure of the OCE control block. The shaded area separates input from return information. Multiple items are assumed to be in contiguous locations.

Pointer Name		UB-04 Form Locator	Number	Size (bytes)	Comment
Dxptr	ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes	70 a-c (Pt's rvdx) 67 (pdx) 67A-Q (sdx)	Up to 16	6	Diagnosis codes apply to whole claim and are not specific to a line item (left justified, blank filled). First listed diagnosis is considered 'patient's reason for visit dx', second diagnosis is considered 'principal dx'
Ndxptr	Count of the number of diagnoses pointed to by Dxptr		1	4	Binary fullword count
Sgptr	Line item entries	42, 44-47	Up to 450	Table 2	
Nsgptr	Count of the number of Line item entries pointed to by Sgptr		1	4	Binary fullword count
Flagptr	Line item action flag Flag set by FI/MAC and passed by OCE to Pricer		Up to 450	1	(See Table 7)
Ageptr	Numeric age in years		1	3	0-124
Sexptr	Numeric sex code	11	1	1	0, 1, 2 (unknown, male, female)
Dateptr	From and Through dates (yyyymmdd)	6	2	8	Used to determine multi-day claim
CCptr	Condition codes	18-28	Up to 7	2	Used to identify partial hospitalization and hospice claims
NCCptr	Count of the number of condition codes entered		1	4	Binary fullword count
Billptr	Type of bill	4 (Pos 2-4)	1	3	Used to identify CMHC and claims pending under OPPTS. It is presumed that bill type has been edited for validity by the Standard System before the claim is sent to OCE
NPIPovptr	National provider identifier (NPI)	56	1	13	Pass on to Pricer
OSCARProvp	OSCAR Medicare provider number	57	1	6	Pass on to Pricer
PstatPtr	Patient status	17	1	2	UB-92 values
OppsPtr	Opps/Non-OPPTS flag		1	1	1=OPPTS, 2=Non-OPPTS (A blank, zero or any other value is defaulted to 1)
OccPtr	Occurrence codes	31-34	Up to 10	2	For FI/MAC use
NOccptr	Count of number of occurrence codes		1	4	Binary fullword count
Dxeditptr	Diagnosis edit return buffer		Up to 16	Table 3	Count specified in Ndxptr
Proceditptr	Procedure edit return buffer		Up to 450	Table 3	Count specified in Nsgptr
Meditptr	Modifier edit return buffer		Up to 450	Table 3	Count specified in Nsgptr
Dteditptr	Date edit return buffer		Up to 450	Table 3	Count specified in Nsgptr
Rceditptr	Revenue code edit return buffer		Up to 450	Table 3	Count specified in Nsgptr
APCptr	APC/ASC return buffer		Up to 450	Table 7	Count specified in Nsgptr
Claimptr	Claim return buffer		1	Table 5	
Wkptr	Work area pointer		1	768K	Working storage allocated in user interface
Wklenptr	Actual length of the work area pointed to by Wkptr		1	4	Binary fullword

Table 1: OCE Control block

The input for each line item contains the information described in Table 2.

Field	UB-04 Form Locator	Number	Size (bytes)	Comments
HCPCS procedure code	44	1	5	May be blank
HCPCS modifier	44	5 x 2	10	
Service date	45	1	8	Required for all lines
Revenue code	42	1	4	
Service units	46	1	9	A blank or zero value is defaulted to 1
Charge	47	1	10	Used by PRICER to determine outlier payments

Table 2: Line item input information

Edit Dispositions

There are currently 83 different edits in the OCE. The occurrence of an edit can result in one of six different dispositions.

Claim Rejection	There are one or more edits present that cause the whole claim to be rejected. A claim rejection means that the provider can correct and resubmit the claim but cannot appeal the claim rejection.
Claim Denial	There are one or more edits present that cause the whole claim to be denied. A claim denial means that the provider can not resubmit the claim but can appeal the claim denial.
Claim Return to Provider (RTP)	There are one or more edits present that cause the whole claim to be returned to the provider. A claim returned to the provider means that the provider can resubmit the claim once the problems are corrected.
Claim Suspension	There are one or more edits present that cause the whole claim to be suspended. A claim suspension means that the claim is not returned to the provider, but is not processed for payment until the FI/MAC makes a determination or obtains further information.
Line Item Rejection	There are one or more edits present that cause one or more individual line items to be rejected. A line item rejection means that the claim can be processed for payment with some line items rejected for payment. The line item can be corrected and resubmitted but cannot be appealed.
Line Item Denials	There are one or more edits present that cause one or more individual line items to be denied. A line item denial means that the claim can be processed for payment with some line items denied for payment. The line item cannot be resubmitted but can be appealed.

In the initial release of the OCE, many of the edits had a disposition of RTP in order to give providers time to adapt to OPPTS. In subsequent releases of the OCE, the disposition of some edits may be changed to other more automatic dispositions such as a line item denial. A single claim can have one or more edits in all six dispositions. Six 0/1 dispositions are contained in the claim return buffer that indicate the presence or absence of edits in each of the six dispositions. In addition, there are six lists of reasons in the claim return buffer that contain the edit numbers that are associated with each disposition. For example, if there were three edits that caused the claim to have a disposition of return to provider, the edit numbers of the three edits would be contained in the claim return to provider reason list. There is more space allocated in the reason lists than is necessary for the current edits in order to allow for future expansion of the number of edits.

In addition to the six individual dispositions, there is also an overall claim disposition, which summarizes the status of the claim.

Special processing conditions currently applied only to OPPTS claims:

1) Partial hospitalizations are paid on a per diem basis; as level I or level II according to the number of services provided/coded. There is no HCPCS code that specifies a partial hospitalization related service. Partial hospitalizations are identified by means of condition codes, bill types and HCPCS codes specifying the individual services that constitute a partial hospitalization (See Appendix C-a). Thus, there are no input line items that directly correspond to the partial hospitalization service. In order to assign the partial hospitalization APC to one of the line items, the payment APC for one of the line items that represent one of the services that comprise partial hospitalization is assigned the partial hospitalization APC. All other partial hospital services on the same day are packaged – SI changed to N. A composite adjustment flag identifies the PHP APC and all the packaged PHP services on the day; a different composite adjustment flag is assigned for each PHP day on the claim.

If less than the minimum amount (number & type) of services required for PHP (level I) are reported for any day, the PHP day is denied (i.e., All PHP services on the day will be denied, no PHP APC will be assigned. Note: Any non-PHP services on the same day will be processed according to the usual OPPTS rules). Lines that are denied or rejected are ignored in PHP processing. If mental health services that are not approved for the partial hospitalization program are submitted on a PHP claim (13x TOB with Condition Code 41 or TOB 76x), the claim is returned to the provider.

2) Reimbursement for a day of outpatient mental health services in a non-PH program is capped at the amount of the level II partial hospital per diem. On a non-PHP claim, the OCE totals the payments for all the designated MH services with the same date of service; if the sum of the payments for the individual MH services exceeds the level II partial hospital per diem, the OCE assigns a special “Mental Health Service” composite payment APC to one of the line items that represent MH services. All other MH services for that day are packaged – SI changed from Q3 to N. A composite adjustment flag identifies the Mental Health Service composite APC and all the packaged MH services on the day that are related to that composite. (See appendix C-b). The payment rate for the Mental Health Services composite APC is the same as that for the level II partial hospitalization APC. Lines that are denied or rejected are ignored in the Daily Mental Health logic. Some mental health services are specific to partial hospitalization and are not payable outside of a PH program; if any of these codes are submitted on a 12x, 13x TOB **without** Condition Code 41, the claim is returned to the provider.

3) For outpatients who undergo inpatient-only procedures on an emergency basis and who expire before they can be admitted to the hospital, a specified APC payment is made to the provider as reimbursement for all services on that day. The presence of modifier CA on the inpatient-only procedure line assigns the specified payment APC and associated status and payment indicators to the line. The packaging flag is turned on for all other lines on that day. Payment is only allowed for one procedure with modifier CA. If multiple inpatient-only procedures are submitted with the modifier –CA, the claim is returned to the provider. If modifier CA is submitted with an inpatient-only procedure for a patient who did not expire (patient status code is not 20), the claim is returned to the provider.

4) Inpatient-only procedures that are on the separate-procedure list are bypassed when performed incidental to a surgical procedure with Status Indicator T. The line(s) with the inpatient-separate procedure is rejected and the claim is processed according to usual OPPTS rules.

5) When multiple occurrences of any APC that represents drug administration are assigned in a single day, modifier-59 is required on the code(s) in order to permit payment for multiple units of that APC, up to a specified maximum; additional units above the maximum are packaged. If modifier –59 is not used, only one occurrence of any drug administration APC is allowed and any additional units are packaged (see Appendix I). (v6.0 – v7.3 only)

6) The use of a device, or multiple devices, is necessary to the performance of certain outpatient procedures. If any of these procedures is submitted without a code for the required device(s), the claim is returned to the provider. Discontinued procedures (indicated by the presence of modifier 52, 73 or 74 on the line) are not returned for a missing device code. Conversely, some devices are allowed only with certain procedures, whether or not the specific device is required. If any of these devices is submitted without a code for an allowed procedure, the claim is returned to the provider.

7) Observations may be paid separately if specific criteria are met; otherwise, the observation is packaged into other payable services on the same day. (See Appendix H-a) [v3.1- v8.3].

Observation is a packaged service; may be used to assign Extended Assessment and Management composite APCs, effective v9.0 (See appendix K).

8) Direct admission from a physician's office to observation may be used in the assignment of an extended assessment and management composite, packaged into T, V or critical care service procedure if present; otherwise, the direct admission is processed as a medical visit (see Appendix H-b).

9) In some circumstances, in order for Medicare to correctly allocate payment for blood processing and storage, providers are required to submit two lines with different revenue codes for the same service when blood products are billed. One line is required with revenue code 39X and an identical line (same HCPCS, modifier and units) with revenue code 38X (see Appendix J). Revenue code 381 is reserved for billing packed red cells, and revenue code 382 for billing whole blood; if either of these revenue codes is submitted on a line with any other service, the claim is returned to the provider (HCPCS codes with descriptions that include packed red cells or whole blood may be billed with either revenue code).

10) Certain wound care services may be paid an APC rate or from the Physician Fee Schedule, depending on the circumstances under which the service was provided. The OCE will change the status indicator and remove the APC assignment when these codes are submitted with therapy revenue codes or therapy modifiers.

11) Providers must append modifier 'FB' to procedures that represent implantation of devices that are obtained at no cost to the provider; modifier 'FC' is appended if a replacement device is obtained at reduced cost. If there is an offset payment amount for the procedure with the modifier, and if there is a device present on the claim that is matched with that procedure on the offset procedure/device reduction crosswalk, the OCE will apply the appropriate payment adjustment flag (corresponding to the FB or FC modifier) to the procedure line. The OCE will also reduce the APC rate by the full offset amount (for FB), or by 50% of the offset amount (for FC) before determining the highest rate for multiple or terminated procedure discounting. If the modifier is used inappropriately (appended to procedure with SI other than S, T, X or V), the claim is returned to the provider. If both the FB and FC modifiers are appended to the same line, the FB modifier will take precedence and the full offset reduction will be applied.

12) Certain special HCPCS codes are always packaged when they appear with other specified services on the same day; however, they may be assigned to an APC and paid separately if there is none of the other specified service on the same day. Some codes are packaged in the presence of any code with status indicator of S, T, V or X (STVX-packaged, SI = Q1); other codes are packaged only in the presence of codes with status indicator T (T-packaged, SI = Q2). The OCE will change the SI from Q(#) to N for packaging, or to the SI and APC specified for the code when separately payable. If there are multiple STVX and/or T packaged HCPCS codes on a specific date and no service with which the codes would be packaged on the same date, the code assigned to the APC with the highest payment rate will be paid. All other codes are packaged.

Note: Effective 1/1/09, for the purposes of executing this packaging logic which is applied prior to the composite APC logic (see overview in appendix L), codes with SI of Q3 (composite candidates) will be evaluated using the status indicator associated with their standard APC.

13) Submission of the trauma response critical care code requires that the trauma revenue code (068x) and the critical care E&M code (99291) also be present on the claim for the same date of service. Otherwise, the trauma response critical care code will be rejected.

14) Certain codes may be grouped together for reimbursement as a “composite” APC when they occur together on the same claim with the same date of service (SI = Q3). When the composite criteria for a group are met, the primary code is assigned the composite APC and status indicator for payment; non-primary codes, and additional primary codes from the same composite group, are assigned status indicator N and packaged into the composite APC. Special composite adjustment flags identify each composite and all the packaged codes on the claim that are related to that composite. Multiple composites, from different composite groups, may be assigned to a claim for the same date. Terminated codes (modifier 52 or 73) are not included in the composite criteria. If the composite criteria are not met, each code is assigned an individual SI/APC for standard OPSS processing (see appendix K). Some composites may have additional or different assignment criteria.

Lines that are denied or rejected are ignored in the composite criteria.

15) Certain nuclear medicine procedures are performed with specific radiolabeled products. If any specified nuclear medicine procedure is submitted without a code for one of the specified radiolabeled products on the same claim, the claim is returned to the provider.

Special processing conditions applied only to Non-OPSS HOPD claims:

1) Bill type of 83x is consistent with the presence of an ASC procedure on the bill and a calculated ASC payment. The Integrated OCE will assign bill type flags to Non-OPSS HOPD claims (opps flag =2) indicating that the bill type should be 83x when there is an ASC procedure code present; and, should not be 83x when there is no ASC procedure present. (Note: Effective 1/1/08, ASC procedures are no longer identified in the IOCE; in the absence of ASC procedures, all non-OPSS claims are flagged as ‘should not be 83x’).

Some processing conditions apply to OPSS HOPD and to some Non-OPSS institutional claims:

Antigens, Vaccine Administration, Splints, and Casts

Vaccine administration, antigens, splints, and casts are paid under OPSS for hospitals. In certain situations, these services when provided by HHAs not under the Home Health PPS, and to hospice patients for the treatment of a non-terminal illness, are also paid under OPSS.

(See appendix N for the specific list of HCPCS codes for reporting antigens, vaccine administration, splints and casts).

Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits

The Integrated OCE generates CCI edits for OPSS hospitals. All applicable NCCI edits are incorporated into the IOCE. Modifiers and coding pairs in the OCE may differ from those in the NCCI because of differences between facility and professional services.

Effective January 1, 2006, these CCI edits also apply to ALL services billed, under bill types 22X, 23X, 34X, 74X, and 75X, by the following providers: Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs), Outpatient Physical Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology Providers (OPTs), CORFs, and Home Health Agencies (HHAs).

The CCI edits are applied to services submitted on a single claim, and on lines with the same date of service. CCI edits address two major types of coding situations. One type, referred to as the comprehensive/component edits, are those edits to code combinations where one of the codes is a component of the more comprehensive code. In this instance only the comprehensive code is paid. The other type, referred to as the mutually exclusive edits, are those edits applied to code combinations where one of the codes is considered to be either impossible or improbable to be performed with the other code. Other unacceptable code combinations are also included. The edit is set to pay the lesser-priced service.

In some instances, both codes in a CCI code pair may be allowed if an appropriate modifier is used that describes the circumstances when both services may be allowed. The code pairs that may be allowed with a modifier are identified with a modifier indicator of “1”; code pairs that are never allowed, whether or not a modifier is present, are identified with a modifier indicator of “0”. (Modifiers that are recognized/used to describe allowable circumstances are: 25, 27, 58, 59, 78, 79, 91, E1-E4, F1-F9, FA, LC, LD, LT, RC, RT, T1-T9, and TA).

Version 15.1 of CCI edits is included in the July, 2009 IOCE.

NOTE: The CCI edits in the IOCE are always one quarter behind the Carrier CCI edits.

See Appendix Fa and Fb “OCE Edits Applied by Bill Type” for bill types that the IOCE will subject to these and other OCE edits.

All institutional outpatient claims, regardless of facility type, will go through the Integrated Outpatient Code Editor (IOCE)*; however, not all edits are performed for all sites of service or types of claim. Appendix F (a) contains OCE edits that apply for each bill type under OPSS processing; appendix F (b) contains OCE edits that apply to claims from hospitals not subject to OPSS.

***Note:** Effective for dates of service on or after 1/1/08 (v9.0), claims for 83x bill type will not go through the Integrated OCE.

The OPSS PRICER would compute the standard APC payment for a line item as the product of the payment amount corresponding to the assigned payment APC, the discounting factor and the number of units for all line items for which the following is true:

Criteria for applying standard APC payment calculations

APC value is not 00000

Payment indicator has a value of 1 or 5

Packaging flag has a value of zero or 3

Line item denial or rejection flag is zero or the line item action flag is 1

Line item action flag is not 2, 3 or 4

Payment adjustment flag is zero or 1

Payment method flag is zero

Composite adjustment flag is zero

If payment adjustments are applicable to a line item (payment adjustment flag is not 0 or 1) then nonstandard calculations are necessary to compute payment for a line item (See Appendix G). The line item action flag is passed as input to the OCE as a means of allowing the FI/MAC to override a line item denial or rejection (used by FI/MAC to override OCE and have PRICER compute payment ignoring the line item rejection or denial) or allowing the FI/MAC to indicate that the line item should be denied or rejected even if there are no OCE edits present. The action flag is also used for handling external line item adjustments. For some sites of service (e.g., hospice) only some services are paid under OPSS.

The line item action flag also impacts the computation of the discounting factor in Appendix D. The Payment Method flag specifies for a particular site of service which of these services are paid under OPSS (See Appendix E). OPSS payment for the claim is computed as the sum of the payments for each line item with the appropriate conversion factor, wage rate adjustment, outlier adjustment, etc. applied. Appendix L summarizes the process of filling in the APC return buffer.

If a claim spans more than one day, the OCE subdivides the claim into separate days for the purpose of determining discounting and multiple visits on the same day. Multiple day claims are determined based on calendar day. The OCE deals with all multiple day claims issues by means of the return information. The PRICER does not need to be aware of the issues associated with multiple day claims. The PRICER simply applies the payment computation as described above and the result is the total OPSS payment for the claim regardless of whether the claim was for a single day or multiple days. If a multiple day claim has a subset of the days with a claim denial, RTP or suspend, the whole claim is denied, RTP or suspended.

General Programming Notes:

In composite processing, prime/non-prime lines that are denied or rejected (CCI or other edits) will not be included in the composite criteria.

Edits that use status indicator (SI) in their criteria will use the final SI, after any special (SI = Q) processing that could change the SI. (Exception: edits that are stipulated in the overview to be performed before the special processing).

For codes where the default SI is a 'Q(#)', if special logic to change the SI is not performed because of the bill type or because the line is denied or rejected, the default SI will be carried through to the end of processing and will be returned as the final SI. **Exception:** If LIAF "1" is appended to a line with SI Q(#), the line item denial or rejection is ignored, the line is included in IOCE logic and the IOCE logic determines the final SI.

If the SI or APC of a code is changed during claims processing, the newly assigned SI or APC is used in computing the discount formula.

For the purpose of determining the version of the OCE to be used, the **From** date on the header information is used.

Edit Return Buffers

The edit return buffers consist of a list of the edit numbers that occurred for each diagnosis, procedure, modifier, date or revenue code. For example, if a 75-year-old male had a diagnosis related to pregnancy it would create a conflict between the diagnosis and age and sex. Therefore, the diagnosis edit return buffer for the pregnancy diagnosis would contain the edit numbers 2 and 3. There is more space allocated in the edit return buffers than is necessary for the current edits in order to allow future expansion of the number of edits. The edit return buffers are described in Table 3.

Name	Bytes	Number	Values	Description	Comments
Diagnosis edit return buffer	3	8	0,1-5	Three-digit code specifying the edits that applied to the diagnosis.	There is one 8x3 buffer for each of up to 16 diagnoses.
Procedure edit return buffer	3	30	0,6,8-9,11-21, 28,30,35,37-40, 42-45,47, 49-50,52-64, 66 -74, 76-83	Three-digit code specifying the edits that applied to the procedure.	There is one 30x3 buffer for each of up to 450 line items.
Modifier edit return buffer	3	4	0,22,75	Three-digit code specifying the edits that applied to the modifier.	There is one 4x3 buffer for each of the five modifiers for each of up to 450 line items.
Date edit return buffer	3	4	0,23	Three-digit code specifying the edits that applied to <u>line item</u> dates.	There is one 4x3 buffer for each of up to 450 line items.
Revenue center edit return buffer	3	5	0, 9 ^a 41,48, 50 ^b , 65	Three-digit code specifying the edits that applied to revenue centers.	There is one 5x3 buffer for each of up to 450 line items

Table 3: Edit Return Buffers

^aRevenue codes 099x with SI of E when submitted without a HCPCS code (OPPS only)

^bRevenue code 0637 with SI of E when submitted without a HCPCS code (OPPS & Non-OPPS)

Each of the return buffers is positionally representative of the source that it contains information for, in the order in which that source was passed to the OCE. For example, the seventh diagnosis return buffer contains information about the seventh diagnosis; the fourth modifier edit buffer contains information about the modifiers in the fourth line item. There are currently 83 different edits in the OCE, ten of which are inactive for the current version of the program. Each edit is assigned a number. A description of the edits is contained in Table 4.

Edit #	Description	Non-OPPS Hospitals	Disposition
1	Invalid diagnosis code	Y	RTP
2	Diagnosis and age conflict	Y	RTP
3	Diagnosis and sex conflict	Y	RTP
4 ⁴	Medicare secondary payor alert (v1.0-v1.1)		Suspend
5 ⁴	E-diagnosis code cannot be used as principal diagnosis	Y	RTP
6	Invalid procedure code	Y	RTP
7	Procedure and age conflict (Not activated)		RTP
8	Procedure and sex conflict	Y	RTP
9	Non-covered under any Medicare outpatient benefit, for reasons other than statutory exclusion.	Y	Line item denial
10	Service submitted for denial (condition code 21)	Y	Claim denial
11	Service submitted for FI/MAC review (condition code 20)	Y	Suspend
12	Questionable covered service	Y	Suspend
13	Separate payment for services is not provided by Medicare (v1.0 – v6.3)		Line item rejection
14	Code indicates a site of service not included in OPSS (v1.0 – v6.3)		Claim RTP
15	Service unit out of range for procedure ¹	Y	RTP
16	Multiple bilateral procedures without modifier 50 (see Appendix A) (v1.0 – v6.2)		RTP
17	Inappropriate specification of bilateral procedure (see Appendix A)	Y	RTP
18	Inpatient procedure ²		Line item denial
19	Mutually exclusive procedure that is not allowed by NCCI even if appropriate modifier is present		Line item rejection
20	Code2 of a code pair that is not allowed by NCCI even if appropriate modifier is present		Line item rejection
21	Medical visit on same day as a type “T” or “S” procedure without modifier 25 (see Appendix B)		RTP
22	Invalid modifier	Y	RTP
23	Invalid date	Y	RTP
24	Date out of OCE range	Y	Suspend
25	Invalid age	Y	RTP
26	Invalid sex	Y	RTP
27	Only incidental services reported ³		Claim rejection
28	Code not recognized by Medicare for outpatient claims; alternate code for same service may be available	Y	Line item rejection
	(See Appendix C for logic for edits 29-36, and 63-64)		
29	Partial hospitalization service for non-mental health diagnosis		RTP
30	Insufficient services on day of partial hospitalization		Line item denial
31	Partial hospitalization on same day as ECT or type T procedure (v1.0 – v6.3)		Suspend
32	Partial hospitalization claim spans 3 or less days with insufficient services on a least one of the days (v1.0 – v9.3)		Suspend
33	Partial hospitalization claim spans more than 3 days with insufficient number of days having partial hospitalization services (v1.0 – v9.3)		Suspend
34	Partial hospitalization claim spans more than 3 days with insufficient number of days meeting partial hospitalization criteria (v1.0 – v9.3)		Suspend
35	Only Mental Health education and training services provided		RTP
36	Extensive mental health services provided on day of ECT or type T procedure (v1.0 – v6.3)		Suspend
37	Terminated bilateral procedure or terminated procedure with units greater than one		RTP
38	Inconsistency between implanted device or administered substance and implantation or associated procedure		RTP
39	Mutually exclusive procedure that would be allowed by NCCI if appropriate modifier were present		Line item rejection
40	Code2 of a code pair that would be allowed by NCCI if appropriate modifier were present		Line item rejection

Table 4: Description of edits/claim reasons (Part 1 of 2)

¹ For edit 15, units for all line items with the same HCPCS on the same day are added together for the purpose of applying the edit. If the total units exceeds the code's limits, the procedure edit return buffer is set for all line items that have the HCPCS code. If modifier 91 is present on a line item and the HCPCS is on a list of codes that are exempt, the unit edits are not applied.

² Edit 18 causes all other line items on the same day to be line item denied with Edit 49 (see APC/ASC return buffer “Line item denial or reject flag”). No other edits are performed on any lines with Edit 18 or 49.

³ If Edit 27 is triggered, no other edits are performed on the claim.

⁴ Not applicable for patient's reason for visit diagnosis

Edit	Description	Non-OPPS Hospitals	Disposition
41	Invalid revenue code	Y	RTP
42	Multiple medical visits on same day with same revenue code without condition code G0 (see Appendix B)		RTP
43	Transfusion or blood product exchange without specification of blood product		RTP
44	Observation revenue code on line item with non-observation HCPCS code		RTP
45	Inpatient separate procedures not paid		Line item rejection
46	Partial hospitalization condition code 41 not approved for type of bill	Y*	RTP
47	Service is not separately payable		Line item rejection
48	Revenue center requires HCPCS		RTP
49	Service on same day as inpatient procedure		Line item denial
50	Non-covered under any Medicare outpatient benefit, based on statutory exclusion	Y	RTP
51	Multiple observations overlap in time (Not activated)		RTP
52	Observation does not meet minimum hours, qualifying diagnoses, and/or 'T' procedure conditions (V3.0-V6.3)		RTP
53	Codes G0378 and G0379 only allowed with bill type 13x or 85x	Y*	Line item rejection
54	Multiple codes for the same service	Y	RTP
55	Non-reportable for site of service		RTP
56	E/M-condition not met and line item date for obs code G0244 is not 12/31 or 1/1 (Active V4.0 – V6.3)		RTP
57	Composite E/M condition not met for observation and line item date for code G0378 is 1/1		Suspend
58	G0379 only allowed with G0378		RTP
59	Clinical trial requires diagnosis code V707 as other than primary diagnosis		RTP
60	Use of modifier CA with more than one procedure not allowed		RTP
61	Service can only be billed to the DMERC	Y	RTP
62	Code not recognized by OPPS ; alternate code for same service may be available		RTP
63	This OT code only billed on partial hospitalization claims (See appendix C)		RTP
64	AT service not payable outside the partial hospitalization program (See appendix C)		Line item rejection
65	Revenue code not recognized by Medicare	Y	Line item rejection
66	Code requires manual pricing		Suspend
67	Service provided prior to FDA approval	Y	Line item denial
68	Service provided prior to date of National Coverage Determination (NCD) approval	Y	Line item denial
69	Service provided outside approval period	Y	Line item denial
70	CA modifier requires patient status code 20		RTP
71	Claim lacks required device code		RTP
72	Service not billable to the Fiscal Intermediary/Medicare Administrative Contractor	Y	RTP
73	Incorrect billing of blood and blood products		RTP
74	Units greater than one for bilateral procedure billed with modifier 50		RTP
75	Incorrect billing of modifier FB or FC		RTP
76	Trauma response critical care code without revenue code 068x and CPT 99291		Line item rejection
77	Claim lacks allowed procedure code		RTP
78	Claim lacks required radiolabeled product		RTP
79	Incorrect billing of revenue code with HCPCS code		RTP
80	Mental health code not approved for partial hospitalization program		RTP
81	Mental health service not payable outside the partial hospitalization program		RTP
82	Charge exceeds token charge (\$1.01)		RTP
83	Service provided on or after effective date of NCD non-coverage	Y	Line item denial

Table 4: Description of edits/claim reasons (Part 2 of 2)

* Non-OPPS hospital bill types allowed for edit condition

Y = edits apply to Non-OPPS hospital claims

The claim return buffer described in Table 5 summarizes the edits that occurred on the claim.

Item	Bytes	Number	Values	Description
Claim processed flag	1	1	0-3, 9	0 - Claim processed. 1 - Claim could not be processed (edits 23, 24, 46 ^a , TOB 83x or other invalid bill type). 2 - Claim could not be processed (claim has no line items). 3 - Claim could not be processed (edit 10 - condition code 21 is present). 9 - Fatal error; OCE can not run - the environment can not be set up as needed; exit immediately.
Num of line items	3	1	nnn	Input value from Nsgptr, or 450, whichever is less.
National provider identifier (NPI)	13	1	aaaaaaaaaaaa	Transferred from input, for Pricer.
OSCAR Medicare provider number	6	1	aaaaaa	Transferred from input, for Pricer.
Overall claim disposition	1	1	0-5	0 - No edits present on claim. 1 - Only edits present are for line item denial or rejection. 2 - Multiple-day claim with one or more days denied or rejected. 3 - Claim denied, rejected, suspended or returned to provider, or single day claim w all line items denied or rejected, w only post payment edits. 4 - Claim denied, rejected, suspended or returned to provider, or single day claim w all line items denied or rejected, w only pre-payment edits. 5 - Claim denied, rejected, suspended or returned to provider, or single day claim w all line items denied or rejected, w both post-payment and pre-payment edits.
Claim rejection disposition	1	1	0-2	0 - Claim not rejected. 1 - There are one or more edits present that cause the claim to be rejected. 2 - There are one or more edits present that cause one or more days of a multiple-day claim to be rejected.
Claim denial disposition	1	1	0-2	0 - Claim not denied. 1 - There are one or more edits present that cause the claim to be denied. 2 - There are one or more edits present that cause one or more days of a multiple-day claim to be denied, or single day claim with all lines denied (edit 18 only).
Claim returned to provider disposition	1	1	0-1	0 - Claim not returned to provider. 1 - There are one or more edits present that cause the claim to be returned to provider.
Claim suspension disposition	1	1	0-1	0 - Claim not suspended. 1 - There are one or more edits present that cause the claim to be suspended.
Line item rejection disposition	1	1	0-1	0 - There are no line item rejections. 1 - There are one or more edits present that cause one or more line items to be rejected.
Line item denial disposition	1	1	0-1	0 - There are no line item denials. 1 - There are one or more edits present that cause one or more line items to be denied.
Claim rejection reasons	3	4	27	Three-digit code specifying edits (See Table 6) that caused the claim to be rejected. There is currently one edit that causes a claim to be rejected.
Claim denial reasons	3	8	10,	Three-digit code specifying edits (see Table 6) that caused the claim to be denied. There is currently one active edit that causes a claim to be denied.
Claim returned to provider reasons	3	30	1-3, 5-6, 8, 14 - 17, 21-23, 25-26, 29, 35, 37-38, 41-44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 55,56, 58-63, 70-75, 77-82	Three-digit code specifying edits (see Table 6) that caused the claim to be returned to provider. There are 48 edits that could cause a claim to be returned to provider.
Claim suspension reasons	3	16	4, 11, 12, 24, 31 -34, 36, 57, 66	Three-digit code specifying the edits that caused the claim to be suspended (see Table 6). There are 12 edits that could cause a claim to be suspended.
Line item rejection reasons	3	12	13, 19, 20, 28, 39, 40, 45, 47, 53, 64, 65, 76	Three-digit code specifying the edits that caused the line item to be rejected (See Table 6). There are 12 edits that could cause a line item to be rejected.
Line item denied reasons	3	6	9, 18, 30, 49, 67-69, 83	Three-digit code specifying the edits that caused the line item to be denied (see Table 6). There are currently 8 active edits that cause a line item denial.
APC/ASC return buffer flag	1	1	0-1	0 - No services paid under OPPTS. APC/ASC return buffer filled in with default values and ASC group number (See App F). 1 - One or more services paid under OPPTS. APC/ASC return buffer filled in with APC.
VersionUsed	8	1	yy.vv.rr	Version ID of the version used for processing the claim (e.g., 2.1.0).
Patient Status	2	1		Patient status code - transferred from input.
Opps Flag	1	1	1-2*	OPPTS/Non-OPPTS flag - transferred from input. *A blank, zero or any other value is defaulted to 1
Non-OPPTS bill type flag	1	1	1-2	Assigned by OCE based on presence/absence of ASC code 1 = Bill type should be 83x (v8.2 - v8.3 only; ASC list & 83x TOB removed v9.0) 2 = Bill type should not be 83x

Table 5: Claim Return Buffer

^aEdit 46 terminates processing only for those bill types where no other edits

Note: Table 6, a complex table which summarizes the edit return buffers, claim disposition and claim reasons, has been removed; this information is available in tables 3, 4 and 5.

Table 7 describes the APC/ASC return buffer. The APC/ASC return buffer contains the APC for each line item along with the relevant information for computing OPSS payment for OPSS hospital claims. Two APC numbers are returned in the APC/ASC fields: HCPCS APC and payment APC. Except when specified otherwise (e.g., partial hospitalization, mental health, observation logic, codes with SI of Q(#), etc.), the HCPCS APC and the payment APC are always the same. The APC/ASC return buffer contains the information that will be passed to the OPSS PRICER. The APC is only returned for claims from HOPDs that are subject to OPSS, and for the special conditions specified in Appendix F-a.

The APC/ASC return buffer for the PC program interface also contains the ASC payment groups for procedures on certain Non-OPSS hospital claims. The ASC group number is returned in the payment APC/ASC field, the HCPCS ASC field is zero-filled [v8.2 – v8.3 only].

Name	Size (bytes)	Values	Description
HCPCS procedure code	5	Alpha	For potential future use by Pricer. Transfer from input
Payment APC/ASC*	5	00001-nnnnn	APC used to determine payment. If no APC assigned to line item, the value 00000 is assigned. For partial hospitalization and some inpatient-only, and other procedure claims, the payment APC may be different than the APC assigned to the HCPCS code. ASC group for the HCPCS code.
HCPCS APC	5	00001-nnnnn	APC assigned to HCPCS code
Status indicator**	2	Alpha [Right justified, blank filled]	A - Services not paid under OPSS; paid under fee schedule or other payment system. B - Non-allowed item or service for OPSS C - Inpatient procedure E - Non-allowed item or service F - Corneal tissue acquisition; certain CRNA services and hepatitis B vaccines G - Drug/Biological Pass-through H - Pass-through device categories, therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals J - New drug or new biological pass-through ¹ K - Non pass-through drugs and biologicals, L - Flu/PPV vaccines M - Service not billable to the FI/MAC N - Items and Services packaged into APC rates P - Partial hospitalization service Q - Packaged services subject to separate payment based on payment criteria Q1 - STVX-Packaged codes Q2 - T-Packaged codes Q3 - Codes that may be paid through a composite APC R - Blood and blood products S - Significant procedure not subject to multiple procedure discounting T - Significant procedure subject to multiple procedure discounting U - Brachytherapy sources V - Clinic or emergency department visit W - Invalid HCPCS or Invalid revenue code with blank HCPCS X - Ancillary service Y - Non-implantable DME Z - Valid revenue with blank HCPCS and no other SI assigned
Payment indicator**	2	Numeric (1- nn) [Right justified, blank filled].	1 - Paid standard hospital OPSS amount (status indicators K, R, S, T, V, X) 2 - Services not paid under OPSS; paid under fee schedule or other payment system (SI A) 3 - Not paid (Q, Q1, Q2, Q3, M, W, Y, E), or not paid under OPSS (B, C, Z) 4 - Paid at reasonable cost (status indicator F, L) 5 - Paid standard amount for pass-through drug or biological (status indicator G) 6 - Payment based on charge adjusted to cost (status indicator H, U) 7 - Additional payment for new drug or new biological (status indicator J) 8 - Paid partial hospitalization per diem (status indicator P) 9 - No additional payment, payment included in line items with APCs (status indicator N, or no HCPCS code and certain revenue codes, or HCPCS codes G0176 (activity therapy), G0129 (occupational therapy), or G0177 (patient education and training service))
Discounting formula number**	1	1-9	See Appendix D for values
Line item denial or rejection flag**	1	0-2	0 - Line item not denied or rejected 1 - Line item denied or rejected (edit return buffer for line item contains a 9, 13, 18, 19, 20, 28, 30, 39, 40, 45, 47, 49, 53, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 76, 83) 2- The line is not denied or rejected, but occurs on a day that has been denied or rejected (not used as of 4/1/02 - v3.0).

Table 7: APC/ASC Return Buffer (Part 1 of 2)

Name	Size (bytes)	Values	Description
Packaging flag**	1	0-4	0 - Not packaged 1 - Packaged service (status indicator N, or no HCPCS code and certain revenue codes) 2 - Packaged as part of PH per diem or daily mental health service per diem (v1.0-v93 only) ³ 3 - Artificial charges for surgical procedure (submitted charges for surgical HCPCS < \$1.01) 4 - Packaged as part of drug administration APC payment (v6.0 - v7.3 only)
Payment adjustment flag**	2	0-8, 91-99 [Right justified, blank filled]	0 - No payment adjustment 1 - Paid standard amount for pass-through drug or biological (status indicator G) 2 - Payment based on charge adjusted to cost (status indicator H) 3 - Additional payment for new drug or new biological applies to APC (status indicator J) ¹ 4 - Deductible not applicable (specific list of HCPCS codes) 5 - Blood/blood product used in blood deductible calculation 6 - Blood processing/storage not subject to blood deductible 7 - Item provided without cost to provider 8 - Item provided with partial credit to provider 91 - 99 Each composite APC present, same value for prime and non-prime codes (v 9.0 - v9.3 only) ⁴ .
Payment Method Flag**	1	0-4	0 - OPPS pricer determines payment for service 1 - Based on OPPS coverage or billing rules, the service is not paid 2 - Service is not subject to OPPS 3 - Service is not subject to OPPS, and has an OCE line item denial or rejection 4 - Line item is denied or rejected by FI/MAC; OCE not applied to line item
Service units	9	1-x	Transferred from input, for Pricer. For the line items assigned APCs 33, 172, 173 or 34, the service units are always assigned a value of one by the OCE even if the input service units were greater than one [Input service units also may be reduced for some Drug administration APCs, based on Appendix I (v6.0 - v7.3 only)]
Charge	10	nnnnnnnnn	Transferred from input, for Pricer; COBOL pic 9(8)v99
Line item action flag**	1	0-4	Transferred from input to Pricer, and can impact selection of discounting formula (AppxD). 0 - OCE line item denial or rejection is not ignored 1 - OCE line item denial or rejection is ignored 2 - External line item denial. Line item is denied even if no OCE edits 3 - External line item rejection. Line item is rejected even if no OCE edits 4 - External line item adjustment. Technical charge rules apply.
Composite Adjustment Flag**	2	Alphanumeric	00 - Not a composite 01 - ZZ: First thru the nth composite APC present; same composite flag identifies the prime and non-prime codes in each composite APC group.

Table 7: APC/ASC Return Buffer (Part 2 of 2)

¹ Status indicator J was replaced by status indicator G starting in April, 2002 (V3.0)

² Status indicator Q was replaced by status indicators Q(#) in January, 2009 (v10.0)

³ Packaging flag 2 was replaced by the composite adjustment flag starting in January, 2009 (v10.0)

⁴ Payment adjustment flag values 91 thru 99 discontinued 1/1/09, replaced by the composite adjustment flag (v10.0)

* ASC # returned **only** for TOB 83x, on the PC version output report, for v8.2 & v8.3

** Not activated for claims with Opps flag = 2 (blanks are returned in the APC/ASC Return Buffer)

Appendix A (OPPS & Non-OPPS) Bilateral Procedure Logic

There is a list of codes that are exclusively bilateral if a modifier of 50 is present*. The following edits apply to these bilateral procedures*.

Condition	Action	Edit
The same code which can be performed bilaterally occurs two or more times on the same date of service, all codes without a 50 modifier	Return claim to provider	16
The same code which can be performed bilaterally occurs two or more times (based on units and/or lines) on the same date of service, all or some codes with a 50 modifier	Return claim to provider	17

There is a list of codes that are considered inherently bilateral even if a modifier of 50 is not present. The following edit applies to these bilateral procedures**.

Condition	Action	Edit
The same bilateral code occurs two or more times (based on units and/or lines) on the same date of service. Exception: If modifier 76 is submitted on the second and subsequent line(s) or unit(s).	Return claim to provider	17***

There are two lists of codes, one is considered conditionally bilateral and the other independently bilateral if a modifier 50 is present. The following edit applies to these bilateral procedures (effective 10/1/06). [OPPS claims only]

Condition	Action	Edit
The bilateral code occurs with modifier 50 and more than one unit of service on the same line	Return claim to provider	74

Note: For ER and observation claims, all services on the claim are treated like any normal claim, including multiple day processing.

*Note: The “exclusively bilateral” list was eliminated, effective 10/1/05 (v6.3); edits 16 and 17 will not be triggered by the presence/absence of modifier 50 on certain bilateral codes for dates of service on or after 10/1/05.

** Exception: For codes with SI of V that are also on the Inherent Bilateral list, condition code ‘G0’ will take precedence over the bilateral edit; these claims will not receive edit 17 nor be returned to provider.

*** Exception: Edit 17 is not applied to Non-OPPS TOB 85x

Appendix B (OPPS Only)

Rules for Medical and Procedure Visits on the Same Day and for Multiple Medical Visits on Same Day

Under some circumstances, medical visits on the same date as a procedure will result in additional payments. A modifier of **25** with an Evaluation and Management (E&M) code, status indicator V, is used to report a medical visit that takes place on the same date that a procedure with status indicator S or T is performed, but that is significant and separately identifiable from the procedure. However, if any E&M code that occurs on a day with a type “T” or “S” procedure does not have a modifier of 25, then edit 21 will apply and there will be a line item rejection.

If there are multiple E&M codes on the same day, on the same claim the rules associated with multiple medical visits are shown in the following table.

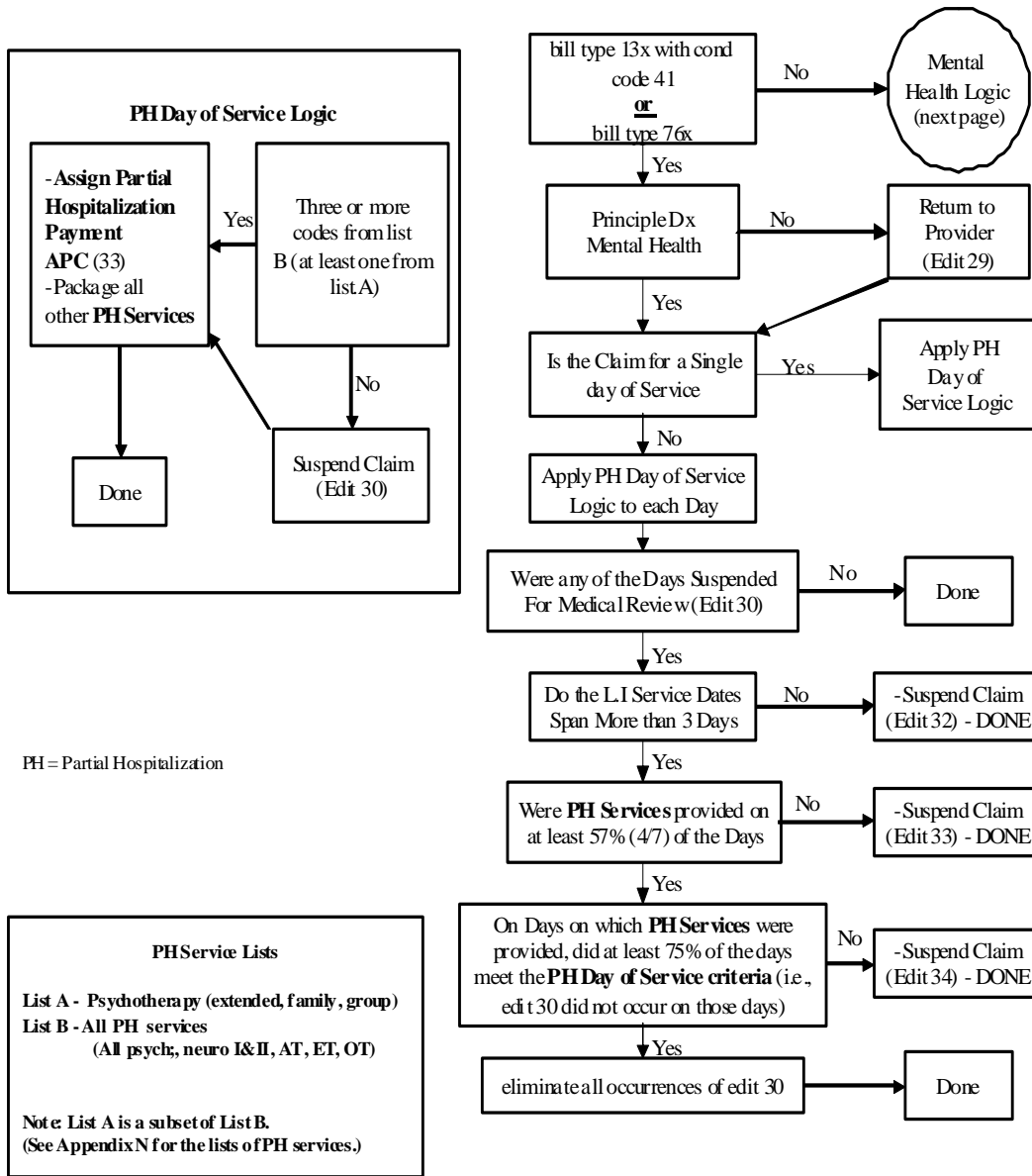
E&M Code	Revenue Center	Condition Code	Action	Edit
2 or more	Revenue center is different for each E&M code, and all E&M codes have units equal to 1.	Not G0	Assign medical APC to each line item with E&M code	-
2 or more	Two or more E&M codes have the same revenue center OR One or more E&M codes with units greater than one had same revenue center	Not G0	Assign medical APC to each line item with E&M code and Return Claim to Provider	42
2 or more	Two or more E&M codes have the same revenue center OR one or more E&M codes with units greater than one had same revenue center	G0*	Assign medical APC to each line item with E&M code	-

The condition code G0 specifies that multiple medical visits occurred on the same day with the same revenue center, and that these visits were distinct and constituted independent visits (e.g., two visits to the ER for chest pain).

* For codes with SI of V that are also on the Inherent Bilateral list, condition code ‘G0’ will take precedence over the bilateral edit to allow multiple medical visits on the same day.

Appendix C-a (OPPS Only)

Partial Hospitalization Logic (v1.0 – v9.3)



PH = Partial Hospitalization

+ Multiple occurrences of services from list A or B are treated as separate units in determining whether 3 or more PH services are present.

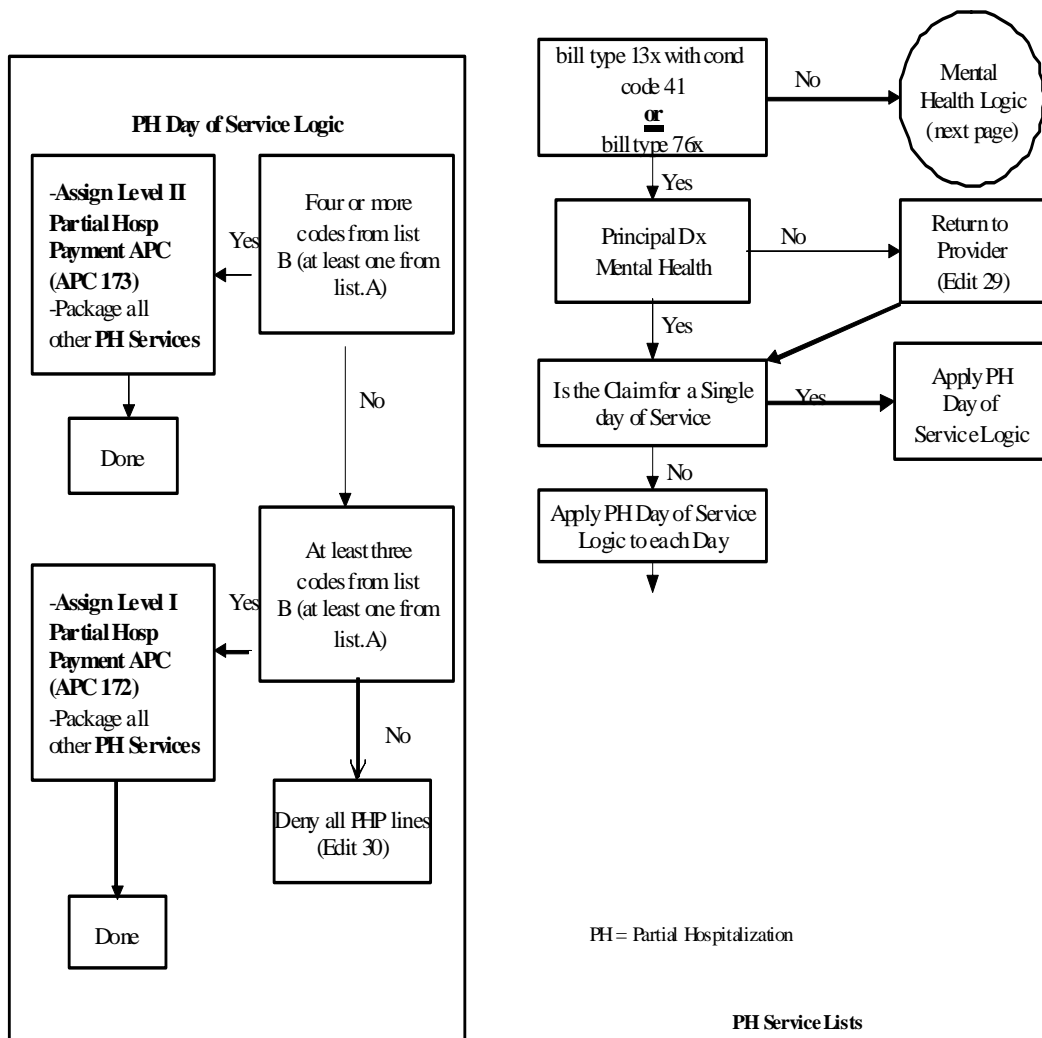
Assign Partial Hospitalization Payment APC
For any day that has a PH service, the first listed line item from the following hierarchical list (List A, other codes in list B) is assigned a payment APC of 33, a status indicator of P, a payment indicator of 8, a discounting factor of 1, a line item denial or rejection indicator of 0, a packaging flag of 0, a payment adjustment flag of 0, and a service unit of 1

For all other line items with a **partial hospital service** (List B), the SI is changed to N and packaging flag is set to 2
For ALL lines with a partial hospital service (List B), the HCPCS APC is set to 0 (effective 1/10/08)

Note: If mental health services which are not approved for the partial hospitalization program are submitted on a 13x TOB with CC41, or on a 76x TOB, the claim is returned to the provider (edit 80).

Appendix C-a (cont'd)

Partial Hospitalization Logic (effective v10.0)



PH = Partial Hospitalization

PH Service Lists

List A - Psychotherapy (extended, family, group)

List B - All PH services

(All psych; neuro I&II, AT, ET, OT)

Note: List A is a subset of List B.

(See Appendix N for the lists of PH services.)

+ Multiple occurrences of services from list A or B are treated as separate units in determining whether 3 or more PH services are present.

Assign Partial Hospitalization Payment APC

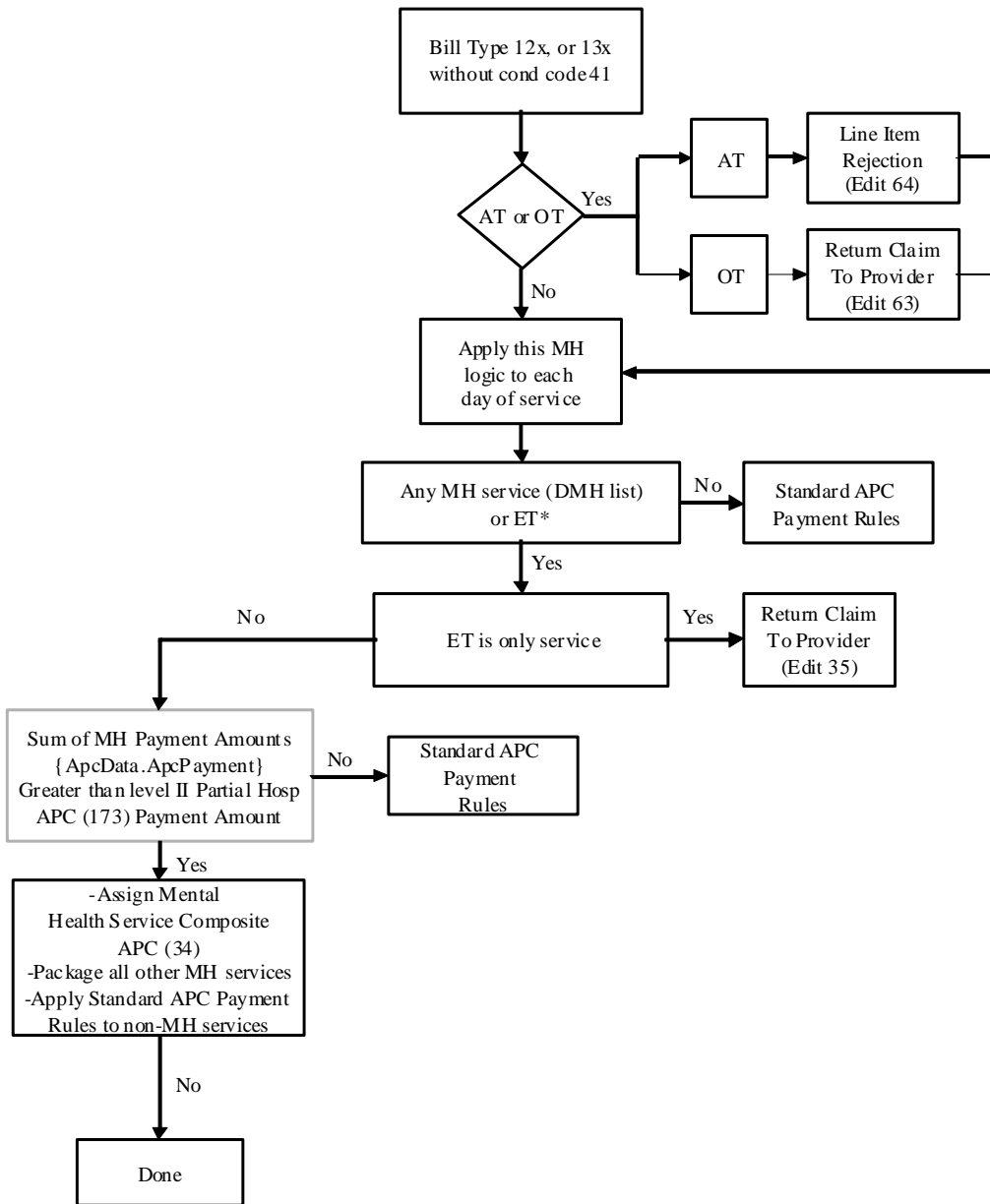
For any day that meets the criteria for level II or level I PHP APC, the first listed line item from the following hierarchical list (List A, other codes in list B) is assigned the PHP payment APC (173 or 172), a status indicator of P, a payment indicator of 8, a discounting factor of 1, a line item denial or rejection indicator of 0, a packaging flag of 0, a payment adjustment flag of 0, a service unit of 1 and a composite adjustment flag value.

For all other line items with a **partial hospital service** (List B) on the day, the SI is changed to N, the packaging flag is set to 1 and the same composite adjustment flag value as for the PHP APC, is assigned.

For ALL lines with a partial hospital service (List B), the HCPCS APC is set to 0 (effective 1/1/08)

Note: If mental health services which are not approved for the partial hospitalization program are submitted on a 13x TOB with CC41, or on a 76x TOB, the claim is returned to the provider (edit 80).

Appendix C-b (cont'd) Mental Health Logic



Assign Mental Health Service Composite APC

The first listed line item with HCPCS code from the list of Daily MH services (DMH list) is assigned a payment APC of 34, a status indicator of S, a payment indicator of 1, a discounting factor of 1, a line item denial or rejection indicator of 0, a packaging flag of 0, a payment adjustment flag of 0, a service unit of 1 and a composite adjustment flag value..

For all other line items with a **daily mental health service** (DMH list), the SI is changed to N, the packaging flag is set to 1 and the same composite adjustment flag value as for the APC 34 line is assigned..

*NOTE: The use of code G0177 (ET) is allowed on MH claims that are not billed as Partial Hospitalization

**NOTE: If mental health services that are not payable outside the PH program are submitted on a 12x or 13x TOB without CC41; the claim is returned to the provider (edit 81).

Appendix D Computation of Discounting Fraction (OPPS Only)

Type “T” Multiple and Terminated Procedure Discounting:

Line items with a status indicator of “T” are subject to multiple-procedure discounting **unless modifiers 76, 77, 78 and/or 79 are present**. The “T” line item with the highest payment amount will **not** be multiple procedure discounted, and all other “T” line items will be multiple procedure discounted. All line items that do not have a status indicator of "T" will be ignored in determining the multiple procedure discount. A modifier of 52 or 73 indicates that a procedure was terminated prior to anesthesia. A terminated type “T” procedure will also be discounted although not necessarily at the same level as the discount for multiple type “T” procedures.

Terminated bilateral procedures or terminated procedures with units greater than one should not occur, and have the discounting factor set so as to result in the equivalent of a single procedure. Claims submitted with terminated bilateral procedures or terminated procedure with units greater than one are returned to the provider (edit 37).

Bilateral procedures are identified from the “bilateral” field in the physician fee schedule. Bilateral procedures have the following values in the “bilateral” field:

1. Conditional bilateral (i.e. procedure is considered bilateral if the modifier 50 is present)
2. Inherent bilateral (i.e. procedure in and of itself is bilateral)
3. Independent bilateral (i.e., procedure is considered bilateral if the modifier 50 is present, but full payment should be made for each procedure (e.g., certain radiological procedures))

Inherent bilateral procedures will be treated as non-bilateral procedures since the bilateralism of the procedure is encompassed in the code. For bilateral procedures the type “T” procedure discounting rules will take precedence over the discounting specified in the physician fee schedule.

All line items for which the line item denial or reject indicator is 1 and the line item action flag is zero, or the line item action flag is 2, 3 or 4, will be ignored in determining the discount; packaged line items, (the packaging flag is not zero or 3), will also be ignored in determining the discount. The discounting process will utilize an APC payment amount file. The discounting factor for bilateral procedures is the same as the discounting factor for multiple type “T” procedures.

Non-Type T Procedure Discounting:

All line items with SI other than “T” are subject to terminated procedure discounting when modifier 52 or 73 is present.

There are nine different discount formulas that can be applied to a line item.

1. 1.0
2. $(1.0 + D(U-1))/U$
3. T/U
4. $(1 + D)/U$
5. D
6. $*TD/U$
7. $*D(1 + D)/U$
8. 2.0
9. $2D/U$

Where

D = discounting fraction (currently 0.5)

U = number of units

T = terminated procedure discount (currently 0.5)

***Note:** Effective 1/1/08 (v9.0), formula #6 and #7 discontinued; new formula #9 created.

The discount formula that applies is summarized in the following tables.

Discount formulas applied to type “T” procedures :

Payment Amount	Modifier 52 or 73	Modifier 50	Conditional or Independent Bilateral	Inherent or Non Bilateral
Highest	No	No	2	2
Highest	Yes	No	3	3
Highest	No	Yes	4	2
Highest	Yes	Yes	3	3
Not Highest	No	No	5	5
Not Highest	Yes	No	3	3
Not Highest	No	Yes	9	5
Not Highest	Yes	Yes	3	3

Discount formulas applied to non-type “T” procedures:

Payment Amount	Modifier 52 or 73	Modifier 50	Conditional or Independent Bilateral	Inherent or Non Bilateral
Highest	No	No	1	1
Highest	Yes	No	3	3
Highest	No	Yes	8*	1
Highest	Yes	Yes	3	3
Not Highest	No	No	1	1
Not Highest	Yes	No	3	3
Not Highest	No	Yes	8*	1
Not Highest	Yes	Yes	3	3

For the purpose of determining which APC has the highest payment amount, the terminated procedure discount (T) and any applicable offset, will be applied prior to selecting the type T procedure with the highest payment amount. If both offset and terminated procedure discount apply, the offset will be applied first, before the terminated procedure discount.

*If not terminated, non-type T Conditional bilateral procedures with modifier 50 will be assigned discount formula #8 effective 10/1/08; non-type T Independent bilateral procedures with modifier 50 will be assigned to formula #8.

Effective 1/1/08 (v9.0), Use of formula #6 and formula #7 discontinued; replaced by formula #3 and new formula #9

Appendix E (a)

Logic for Assigning Payment Method Flag Values to Status Indicators by Bill Type

Payment Method Flag (PMF) Values

- 0 - OPPS pricer determines payment for service
- 1 - Based on OPPS, Coverage or Billing rules, the service is not paid
- 2 - Service is not subject to OPPS
- 3 - Service is not subject to OPPS, and has an OCE line item denial or rejection
- 4 - Line item is denied or rejected by FI; OCE not applied to line item

Type Of Bill	PMF = 0	PMF = 1	PMF = 2	Comments
HOPD 13x w or w/o Condition Code 41	G, H, J, K, N, P, R, S, T, U, V, X	C, E, B, M, Q, Q1, Q2, Q3, W, Y, Z	A, F, L	
HOPD 12x, 14x with CC41	Not set	Not set	Not set	PMF is not set, edit 46 is generated, claim processed flag is set to 1 and no further processing occurs.
HOPD Without CC 41	G, H, J, K, N, P, R, S, T, U, V, X	C, E, B, M, Q, Q1, Q2, Q3, W, Y, Z	A, F, L	
CMHC 76x	PH services (any SI/code on PH list) & Non-PH w/SI = N	Non-PH & non- Telehealth service: A, B, C, E, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, R, S, T, U, V, X, Q, Q1, Q2, Q3, W, Y, Z	Telehealth (Q3014)	
CORF 75x	Vaccine [v1-6.3] (any SI/code on the vaccine list)	C,E,M, W, Y, Z	A, B, F, G, H, J, K, L, N, P, Q, Q(#), R, S, T, U, V, X	
Home Health 34x	Vaccine, Antigen, Splint, Cast (any SI/code on specified lists)	Not vaccine, Antigen, splint, cast: C, E, M, W, Y, Z	Not vaccine, Antigen, splint, cast: A, B, F, G, H, J, K, L, N, P, Q, Q(#), R, S, T, U, V, X	
RNHC (43x) RHC (71x) FQHC (73x)		C, E, M, W, Y, Z	A, B, F, G, H, J, K, L, N, P, Q, Q(#), R, S, T, U, V, X	
Other bill types with Condition Code 07	Antigen, Splint, Cast: (any SI/code on specified lists)	Not vaccine, Antigen, splint, cast: C, E, M, W, Y, Z	Not vaccine, Antigen, splint, cast: A, B, F, G, H, J, K, L, N, P, Q, Q(#), R, S, T, U, V, X	
Other bill types without Condition Code 07		C, E, M, W, Y, Z	A, B, F, G, H, J, K, L, N, P, Q, Q(#), R, S, T, U, V, X	

1. If the claim is not processed (claim processed flag is greater than 0), the PMF is not set and is left blank.
2. If the line item denial or rejection flag is 1 or 2, and the PMF has been set to 2 by the process above, the PMF is reset to 3.
3. If the line item action flag is 2 or 3, the PMF is reset to 4.
4. If the line item action flag is 4, the PMF is reset to 0.
5. If PMF is set to a value greater than 0, reset HCPCS and Payment APC to 00000.
6. Status indicator J was replaced by status indicator G starting in April 2002 (V3.0)

Appendix E(b) [OPPS flag = 2] [Not activated].
 Logic for Assigning Non-OPPS Hospital Payment Method Flag Values

[PMF values not returned on claims with OPPS flag = 2]

Bill type	Status Indicator	PMF
HOPD (12x, 13x, 14x) CAH (85x) ASC (83x) w OPPS flag = 2	C, E,M, W, Y, Z	1
HOPD (12x, 13x, 14x) CAH (85x) ASC (83x) w OPPS flag = 2	A, B, F, G, H, K, L, N, P, Q, Q1, Q2, Q3, R, S, T, U, V, X	2

