

Fee Schedule Updates

On Jan. 1, 2015, HealthChoice and the Department of Corrections (DOC) updated the CPT/HCPCS, Outpatient Facility (OP), Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC), American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), and American Dental Association (ADA) fee schedules. Additionally, significant fee schedule updates will become effective April 1, 2015.

HealthChoice and DOC provide fee schedule updates on Jan. 1 of each year that reflect added, changed and deleted codes; however, the comprehensive annual fee schedule update occurs on April 1 of each year. This allows time for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to finalize and post its fee schedules. The next scheduled updates are:

- Feb. 1 — Add, change and delete codes for ASA
- April 1 — Comprehensive fee schedule update for CPT/HCPCS, OP, ASC and ADA

Fee schedule updates are reported in each issue of the *Network News* newsletter which is distributed quarterly to all Network Providers. Updates are also posted to the provider websites. We encourage you and your staff to reference the website of your provider network for the most recent fee schedule updates and other important information.

If you have questions, please contact the Network Management Unit by calling 1-405-717-8790 or toll-free 1-800-543-6044, or send email inquiries to: EGID.NetworkManagement@omes.ok.gov or EGID.DOCNetworkManagement@omes.ok.gov.

HealthChoice and DOC Adopt New Guidelines for Observation Stays

For charges incurred on or after April 1, 2015, HealthChoice and the Department of Corrections will adopt new guidelines for observation stays as follows:

1. Observation stays of 47:59 hours or less
 - ◆ Certification is not required;
 - ◆ Charges must be billed as outpatient services; and
 - ◆ Charges for a subsequent inpatient admission must be combined with charges for the observation stay, and all charges must be billed as inpatient services.
2. Observation stays of 48:00 hours or longer
 - ◆ Observation stays that are longer than 48 hours are not covered; however, if charges for room and board are billed, certification is required by the certification administrator; and
 - ◆ Charges for room and board must be billed as inpatient services.
3. Observation stays through the emergency room or for scheduled/not-scheduled outpatient surgery must be billed as outpatient services, unless charges for room and board are billed, then charges should be billed as inpatient services.

If you have any questions regarding a HealthChoice certification, or to request certification, please contact the certification administrator toll-free at 1-800-848-8121.

If you have questions regarding the change in benefit, please do not hesitate to contact our medical claims administrator at 1-405-416-1800 or toll-free 1-800-782-5218.