



PAAC March 2020 Monthly Report

Sharing updates from Payer Advocacy Advisory Committee:

Highlights from our activities:

As part of PAAC monthly activities, response to the COVID-19 crisis has had PAAC focused on the following:

1. Advocating for payment parity for telehealth services and collecting data from our payer contacts with the development of this advocacy document from AAP leadership: https://downloads.aap.org/DOPA/Telehealth_2_rev.pdf
2. Working with AAP State Government Advocacy affairs to gather and disseminate this data regarding state by state responses: <https://downloads.aap.org/DOCCSA/State-Telehealth-Notices.pdf>
3. Discussed requesting Aetna cease their automatic down-coding policies during this period where pediatric practice is already at risk.
4. Explore advocacy for payment for well visits conducted via Telehealth during this crisis.
5. Discuss in states where patient responsibilities are waived for patients, that pediatricians are made whole by the payer payment.
6. Explore the implementation status of the 2021 E/M Office Visit Changes in light of the focus on COVID-19 response.
7. Discuss with payers removing the 365 day requirement or other arbitrary rules for annual well visits for children 3 and older.
8. Discuss P4P and Value Based Payment impacts for 2020 due to the current COVID-19 crisis and how payers should consider paying at the same rate as performance in 2019 or for 2020 whichever is higher.
9. Prepare for our now virtual PAAC meeting on 4/3 which will likely be consumed by discussing strategies to advocate for appropriate payments to support pediatric through this crisis.

If you have ideas that you would like PAAC to address during this difficult time, please reach out to us!

Thank you for all that you do to help the children, families and colleagues of your region!

Request from PAAC: if you have any problems with payment, please reach out to us by filling out the <https://www.aap.org/en-us/professional-resources/practice-transformation/getting-paid/Pages/Hassle-Factor-Form-Concerns-with-Payers.aspx> Hassle Factor form (link on the bottom of every SOAPM email), or emailing members directly. **PLEASE** consider including **email contact for your biller or office manager** who might best provide additional information such as ERAs so that we can be more effective in our advocacy efforts. In addition, if we reach out to you to follow-up, please respond

and include the appropriate team members in your organization who might be able to provide additional details if needed.

Please help us help you!
Sue Kressly, PAAC Chair

Contacts:

Anthem: Betsy Peterson, felixwesley1998@gmail.com

Aetna: Gene Hershorin, EHershorin@med.miami.edu

The "Blues":

Herschel Lessin kidmd@optonline.net (BCBS carriers in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington DC, West Virginia) and

Michael Chamberlin mikechamberlin3@gmail.com (BCBS carriers in Arizona, Arkansas, Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington Wisconsin, Wyoming)

Cigna: Sue Kressly, skressly@kresslypediatrics.com

Humana: Gail Schonfeld, gschonfeld@eastendpediatricspc.com

United Healthcare: chipharb@comcast.net

All others AND Medicaid, for now....please process through the Hassle Factor Form

Thanks for your support!

Sue Kressly