REMINDER: Billing for Services in ASCs

42 CFR 416.65 discusses the covered surgical procedures allowed in the ASC outpatient setting. Covered surgical procedures are those procedures that meet the following standards:

1. Do not generally exceed a total of 90 minutes operating time; and
2. A total of 4 hours recovery or convalescent time.
3. If the covered surgical procedures require anesthesia, the anesthesia must be:
   a. Local or regional anesthesia; or
   b. General anesthesia of 90 minutes or less duration.
4. Covered surgical procedures may not be of a type that:
   a. Generally result in extensive blood loss;
   b. Require major or prolonged invasion of cavities;
   c. Directly involve major blood vessels; or
   d. Are generally emergency or life-threatening in nature.

Information regarding surgical procedure requirements can also be found in the Administrative Rules of Montana 37.86.1402.

Ambulatory Surgical Centers provide the facility and equipment and are considered both the pay-to (billing) and rendering provider. Do not include the physician who performed the surgery as the rendering provider on your claim. The physician will separately bill for surgical services rendered.

Montana Medicaid reimburses Ambulatory Surgical Centers following the Medicare fee schedule. Current provider rates and billable procedure codes be found on the ASC fee schedule located on the Medicaid provider website. Fee schedules are updated quarterly and providers must review the appropriate fee schedule to ensure that service is allowed in an ASC setting. If the procedure is not listed in the fee schedule, surgery meets the above criteria and provider feels the ASC setting is best for the member, the provider may contact the ASC Program Officer and request a review.

Contact Information

If you have any questions, please contact the ASC Program Officer at (406) 444-4349 or email cpeck@mt.gov.
For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations at 1-800-624-3958 (toll-free, in/out of state) or 406-442-1837 (Helena) or via e-mail at MTPRHelpdesk@conduent.com.