

ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION RELATED CLAIMS

Issue Date: June 20, 1988

Authority: [32 CFR 199.4\(e\)\(5\)](#) and [32 CFR 199.14\(a\)\(1\)](#)

I. POLICY

A. Authorized Organ Transplantation. Claims related to an otherwise authorized organ transplantation are subject to the following adjudication policies:

1. Professional services charges. Contractors will reimburse services at the prevailing charge, where such exists. Where no prevailing charges exist for a procedure, payment is to be based on the billed charge, given the rare and unusual nature of organ transplantation.

2. Transportation charges.

a. Claims for transportation of the donor organ and transplant team shall be adjudicated on the basis of billed charges, but not to exceed the transport service's published schedule of charges, and cost-shared on an inpatient basis. Scheduled or chartered transportation may be cost-shared.

b. Claims for transportation of an organ donor is excluded.

3. Donor hospital charges. Charges made by the donor hospital will be cost-shared on an inpatient basis.

4. Less than 24-hour hospital stay. When an admitted transplant candidate is discharged less than 24-hours after admission because of extenuating circumstances, such as the available organ is found not suitable or other circumstances which prohibit the transplant from being timely performed, all otherwise authorized services associated with the admission shall be cost-shared on an inpatient basis, since the expectation at admission was that the patient would remain more than 24 hours.

5. Nonavailability Statement (NAS). An NAS, when otherwise required for inpatient care, need not be developed for claims specifically related to Physicians Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes 33945 or 47135 or to ICD-9-CM procedure code 50.59 or 37.5 for otherwise authorized inpatient services associated with an organ transplantation procedure. Also, an NAS does not need to be developed for claims from an authorized cardiac

transplant center or an authorized liver transplant center for admissions for evaluation for heart transplantation or liver transplantation respectively.

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