

Pricing Methodology Change for Hearing Aids

Recent regulation changes to 18 NYCRR 505.31 created a new Medicaid pricing methodology for hearing aids. The changes are a result of the Medicaid Redesign Team's recommendation to increase the efficiency of the Medicaid program by reducing the administrative burden on hearing aid providers to obtain claims payment.

For further information, the regulations are available through the Department's website at:

<http://w3.health.state.ny.us/dbspace/NYCRR18.nsf/56cf2e25d626f9f785256538006c3ed7/c7ff54aa0b77072485256722007690ee?OpenDocument&Highlight=0,505.31>

As a result, initial Maximum Reimbursable Amounts (MRAs) have been established for hearing aid procedure codes effective for dates of service on and after August 1, 2014. If needed, manual pricing for charges above the MRA will be available through October 31, 2014. The MRAs will become final effective dates of service on and after November 1, 2014. During this three month transition, if a provider has invoices or other manufacturer product information that could impact an MRA, please forward that information to ohipmedpa@health.state.ny.us

With the new MRA pricing methodology, hearing aid providers will no longer be required to submit paper claims and invoices for manual pricing of hearing aids billed over the former "screen" prices. MRAs are determined for each item based on an average cost of products representative of that item. This enables providers to bill claims electronically. The initial MRAs listed below were established based on a two year review of actual claims payment and invoices. The August 1, 2014 fee schedule with the hearing aid MRAs is available at:

<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/HearingAid/index.aspx>

For those items where an MRA has not yet been established, manual pricing will continue, as listed in the Hearing Aid Manual available at:

<https://www.emedny.org/ProviderManuals/HearingAid/index.aspx>

For questions, please contact the Division of OHIP Operations at (800) 342-3005 or

ohipmedpa@health.state.ny.us

Code	Description	MRA \$
V5040	Hearing aid, monaural, body worn, bone conduction	369
V5050	Hearing aid, monaural, in the ear	232
V5060	Hearing aid, monaural, behind the ear	244
V5220	Hearing aid, BICROS, behind the ear	754
V5253	Hearing aid, digitally programmable, binaural, BTE	616
V5256	Hearing aid, digital, monaural, ITE	317
V5257	Hearing aid, digital, monaural, BTE	337
V5260	Hearing aid, digital, binaural, ITE	610
V5261	Hearing aid, digital, binaural, BTE	665