

## Lockout Rules

SD/MC enforces two types of lockout rules. The California Code of Regulations prohibits some specialty mental health services from being provided to a beneficiary on the same day. SD/MC will deny a service line when the California Code of Regulations prohibits that service from being provided to a beneficiary on the same day as a service approved in history. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) also requires states to implement the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI). NCCI identifies procedure codes that should not be billed on the same day for the same beneficiary unless certain conditions are met<sup>13</sup>. SD/MC will also deny a claim for a service when NCCI prohibits that service from being provided to a beneficiary on the same day as a service approved in history unless certain conditions are met.

The code tables identify the combinations of procedure codes that cannot be billed for the same beneficiary on the same day. Column 2, labeled "Code", lists each outpatient procedure code. Column 5, labeled "Lockout Codes," lists all procedure codes that are locked out for the procedure code in Column 2 when provided to the same beneficiary on the same day. The combination of the Code in Column 2 and each Lockout Code in Column 5 represents a lockout situation when both are provided to the same beneficiary on the same day. SD/MC will deny a claim for a service if it produces a lockout situation, when combined with a service approved in history, unless one of the codes is a target code with an over-riding modifier.

Target codes are identified in Column 5 of the Code tables by one or two asterisks (\*). Target codes with one asterisk are not locked out when combined with the procedure code in Column 2 if the target code is billed with one of the following over-riding modifiers: 59, XE, XP or XU. Target codes with two asterisks are not locked out when combined with the procedure code in Column 1 if the target code is billed with one of the following over-riding modifiers 27, 59, XE, XP, or XU.

<sup>13</sup> For an explanation of why certain codes that usually cannot be billed together can be billed together in certain circumstances, refer to the [2021 NCCI Policy Manual for Medicare Services](#), chapter 1 pages I-4, I-5, and I-8 through I-10.

## Lockout Rules and Exceptions

\* Lockout Codes: Some codes cannot be billed together and others can only be billed together in extraordinary circumstances. Codes that cannot be billed with the procedure listed in column Code are listed in the Lockout Codes column. If a code is not included in the service tables' column titled Lockout Codes then it can be used with the code in the Code column. However, it would be inappropriate to use a code describing one service to "prolong" a code that describes a different service.

~~\* If a service needs to be prolonged, use add on codes or prolonged service code G2212 if the code does not have dedicated add on code or is an evaluation and management code.~~

\* If a CPT code has an \* or \*\* after it, it can be listed with the procedure under extraordinary circumstances. If a CPT code has \* after it, it can be used with modifier 59, XE, XP, or XU, as appropriate. If a code has \*\* after it, it can be used with modifier 27, 59, XE, XP, or XU as appropriate. The modifier must follow the code in the Lockout\_Codes column. Please note that lockout over-riding modifiers only apply to CPT codes, not HCPCS codes. For example, they would not be used with T1017, targeted case management. Refer to Abbreviation Tables handout for a description of the modifiers and when to use them. Most of the codes listed in the Lockout Codes column may be overridden under appropriate circumstances. If considering claiming for two codes that cannot normally be billed together, review both codes to see whether there is any instance in which one of the service codes appear in the Code and Lockout Codes columns carrying a \* or \*\*. Also note that most **outpatient** services are locked out against inpatient and 24-hour services except for the date of admission. The codes below, however, are not locked out against **residential** services:

- 99202-99205
- 99212-99215
- 99334-99337
- 90865
- 96365-96371
- 96372-96377
- 99341-99350
- 99324-99328
- 99605-99607
- ~~G2212~~
- H0033
- H0034