

OB Bundled Coding Change

Effective: 01/01/2027

Aetna Better Health of Florida would like to inform our providers of an upcoming change for global billing for OBs.

- The **American Medical Association (AMA)** convened a **multi-specialty Maternity Care Services Workgroup in 2024** to evaluate whether longstanding global obstetric CPT codes still reflected modern maternity care delivery.
- The workgroup included representation from:
 - AMA CPT Editorial Panel
 - American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)
 - Practicing obstetric clinicians and health economics experts
- The driving concern was that **global/bundled OB codes**, currently do not capture:
 - Multidisciplinary care teams
 - Care delivered across multiple sites
 - Increased visit frequency and care complexity
 - Labor management spanning multiple days or facilities

Core Structural Change: End of Global OB Bundling

- **Effective January 1, 2027**, the AMA will **eliminate traditional global maternity CPT codes** and replace them with a **more granular, itemized framework**.
- Long-standing bundled codes that combined:
 - Antepartum care
 - Labor & delivery
 - Postpartum careinto a single payment will be **deleted**.

Key elements explicitly described:

- **Elimination of global/bundled OB codes**



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- **Visit-level reporting**, primarily using E/M codes for prenatal and postpartum visits
 - Creation or revision of CPT guidance to support **real-time claims submission**, instead of billing once delivery occurs
 - New code logic designed to better capture care provided by **multiple clinicians** across time and settings
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Medicaid and Payer Planning Implications (Explicitly Noted)

From payer-focused summaries and AMA statements:

- The changes are expected to:
 - Improve **claims-based reporting timeliness**
 - Increase **data granularity for quality measurement and risk adjustment**
 - Better support population health analytics and care transitions
 - Additional **coding guidance and claims-editing rules are expected** but were **not yet finalized** at the time of early release.
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