



## Medicare Part B Claims Processing Issue

Novitas Solutions identified a claims processing issue related to Medicare Part B claims that are subject to the Multiple Procedure Payment Reduction (MPPR). Between January 1, 2021 and April 13, 2021, Medicare was not properly reducing claim payments for the MPPR resulting in overpayments. A correction was installed on April 13, 2021 and claims are now processing appropriately. Claims will be identified and adjusted by the MACs for appropriate reimbursement, but these adjustments have not yet begun. No provider action is needed. [Find updates to the Novitas Solutions Open Claims Issues here.](#)

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## Health and Human Services Extends Public Health Emergency

Effective July 20, 2021, the Public Health Emergency related to COVID-19 has been extended another 90 days with a new expiration date of October 18, 2021. The extension of the Public Health Emergency also extends the Qualifying Hospital Stay waiver and the 100-day benefit period waiver for another 90 days. [Read the declaration of the extension.](#)

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## AmeriHealth Caritas Announces Notices Effective August 1, 2021

AmeriHealth recently announced two important notices for SNFs effective August 1, 2021. The first notice states that Nursing Facility admissions of AmeriHealth Caritas CHC Nursing Facility Ineligible Participants will require notification upon admission. The second notice states when billing for patient pay liability, the gross amount must be billed with value code 23 and the net amount must be billed with value code 66. Both value codes are required when billing patient pay liability amounts. Failure to do so will result in denied claims. [Click here](#) to read more from the AmeriHealth notices.

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## PEAR Portal Replaces NaviNet for Independence Blue Cross and AmeriHealth

Beginning on July 1, 2021 providers will no longer be able to access claim or eligibility information for Independence Blue Cross or AmeriHealth beneficiaries on NaviNet. This access has been replaced by the PEAR (Provider Engagement, Analytics & Reporting) Portal. Providers are encouraged to enroll for the PEAR Portal as soon as possible. [Find information regarding the transition to the PEAR Portal here.](#)

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## UPMC CHC Implements New 180-Day Exception Process

UPMC CHC has announced a new 180-day exception process for new Medicaid approvals. This new exception process should be implemented by providers ASAP but no later than August 15, 2021. The documents necessary for completion will be posted on UPMC's website in August. As a reminder, UPMC CHC follows the same DHS timely filing guidelines for the 180-day exception process. Providers have 60 days from the date of the PA-162 to submit their claims. Check frequently on [UPMC's Provider Portal](#) for information regarding this new process.

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## New Feature: Medical Billing Q&A

In order to assist providers who may be experiencing many of the same billing and AR challenges, our future newsletters will feature a new medical billing Q&A section. If you have a question you would like to submit for detailed explanation, please [email it to Angela Briggs](#) and we will gladly feature it in a future newsletter.

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**Questions about these updates? Need support to meet requirements?**

Contact [Stefanie Knaub](#), RKL Senior Living Services Partner, at 717.590.8648.

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