

## PHARMACIST REIMBURSEMENT

### Scope

This policy applies to:

- |   |   |                                   |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kaiser Permanente Health Plan of Washington | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kaiser Permanente Health Plan of Washington Options, Inc. | <input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare   |                                   |

### Policy

**Original Effective Date: 06/01/2016**

When benefits allow, Kaiser Permanente will reimburse medical services performed by a pharmacist in accordance with Washington State Law. The law states that the health plans must not deny any service performed by a pharmacist if the service is within the lawful scope of the license; the plan would have provided benefits if the service had been performed by a physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or a physician's assistant licensed under Washington State regulations, and the pharmacist is included in the plan's network of participating providers. Reimbursable services include Medication Therapy Management services (MTM), medication/vaccination services, diabetes self-management, potential harm reduction services, and some lab interpretation services.

The following Commercial plans are excluded ...

- Federal plans
- Commercial self-insured plans

### Billing/Coding Guidelines

All claims must be billed according to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines.

Pharmacists should utilize the most appropriate code per CPT coding guidelines.

### Policy Definitions

Not Applicable

### Prerequisite(s)

Not applicable (no period)

## References

[ESSB 5557 FAQ](#), ESSB 5557 – Health Plan Reimbursement of Pharmacist Provided Medical Services, OneHealthPort

[ESSB 5557 Policy Directives](#), ESSB 5557 – Health Plan Reimbursement of Pharmacist Provided Medical Services, OneHealthPort

[Pharmacist and Other Provider Expectations](#), ESSB 5557 – Health Plan Reimbursement of Pharmacist Provided Medical Services, OneHealthPort

[Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5557](#), Washington State Legislature SB 5557 - 2015-16

## Frequently Asked Questions

- Q1:** Will Kaiser Permanente reimburse services from a delegated pharmacist for a commercial member?
- A1:** Yes. Kaiser Permanente follows Washington State legislation, Senate Bill 5557; which allows pharmacists with delegated agreements to bill the health plan for services in 2016. The senate bill will expand and allow for all other qualified pharmacists to bill for services in 2017.
- Q2:** Will cost shares apply to the member for the service performed by the pharmacist?
- A2:** Yes. The pharmacist service will be subject to member's appropriate cost share. Services performed by a pharmacist are considered a primary care service, unless performed by an oncology pharmacist and then the service would be subject a to a specialty care cost share if applicable.
- Q3:** Will Kaiser Permanente reimburse CPT 99211 from a delegated pharmacist for a commercial member?
- A3:** Yes. NCCI coding guidelines advise to use the most appropriate CPT code.

## Revision History

04/22/2022 – Updated to correct hyperlinks and formatting.

Note: This information is intended to serve only as a general reference resource regarding reimbursement policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, we may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to services being delivered in a particular case. Further, the policy does not cover all issues related to reimbursement for services rendered to our enrollees as legislative mandates, the provider contracts, the enrollee's benefit coverage documents, and the Provider Manual all may supplement or in some cases supersede this policy. This policy may be modified from time to time by publishing a new version of the policy on Kaiser Permanente provider website; however, the information presented in this policy is believed to be accurate and current as of the date of publication.