



Texas Medicaid Encounter Issues with Present on Admission (POA) with Hospital Claims

Reminder

Per the [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#), Medicaid **POA** reporting is required for all inpatient hospital claims. **No hospital is exempt from this POA requirement.** If the provider leaves this blank on the claim and they are not trying to report exempt from POA, this will cause the claim to deny.

Note: Medicare crossover hospital claims must also comply with the Medicaid requirements to include the POA values.

What is POA

POA is defined as present at the time the order for inpatient admission occurs. Conditions that develop during an outpatient visits, including emergency department, observation or outpatient surgery, are considered POA. A complete list of POA exempt diagnosis codes can be found on the [CMS website](#).

The following table shows the POA values:

POA Value	Description	Payment
Y	Diagnosis was present at the time of admission	Payment will be made by Medicaid when a hospital – acquired condition (HAC) is present
N	Diagnosis was not present at the time of admission	No payment will be made by Medicaid when an HAC is present
U	Documentation was insufficient	No payment will be made by Medicaid when an HAC is present
W	Clinically undetermined	Payment will be made by Medicaid when an HAC is present:
(blank)	Exempt from POA reporting	Exempt from POA reporting
Texas Medicaid follows Medicare guidelines for payments referenced in this table.		
Note: If a diagnosis code is exempt from POA reporting, providers should leave the POA indicator field blank on the claim.		

Have questions

Please contact our BCBSTX Medicaid Provider Service Center at 1-877-560-8055 or contact your BCBSTX Medicaid Provider Network Representative via email at TexasMedicaidNetworkDepartment@bcbstx.com.

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