

To: AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

Date: April 15, 2021

Subject: Louisiana Department of Health has Revised “Incident to” Services

Summary: LDH has revised criteria for “Incident to” Services.

“Incident to” services are services and supplies that are furnished as an integral part of a supervising provider’s professional services. For physicians, “incident to” services include those provided by medical assistants, licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, etc., but exclude services by an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) and physician assistant (PA).

For APRNs and PAs, “incident to” services include those provided by medical assistants, licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, etc. For all “incident to” services, medical assistants, licensed practical nurses, and registered nurses must only operate within the scope of practice, license or certification.

Provider supervision must consist of either personal participation in the service or direct supervision coupled with review and approval of the service notes. Direct supervision is defined as the provider being present in the facility, although not necessarily present in the room where the service is being rendered, and immediately available to provide assistance and direction throughout the time the service is performed. For Office of Public Health clinics, providers must provide general supervision, meaning the supervising provider’s overall direction and control, but the provider’s presence is not required in the facility during the performance of the service.

When an APRN or PA provides all parts of the service without a supervising or collaborating physician’s involvement, even if a physician signs off on the service or is present in the facility, the service does not meet the requirements of “incident to” services. Instead, claims for these services must be submitted using the APRN or PA as the rendering provider.

Physicians must not submit claims for services provided by an APRN or PA with the physician listed as the rendering provider when the physician is only supervising, reviewing, or “signing off” on the APRN’s or PA’s records. Services billed in this manner may be recovered and subject to state sanctions.

This revision will be added to the [Provider Handbook](#) by **4/28/2021**.

Questions: Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please contact AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007 or your [Provider Network Management Account Executive](#).

Missed an alert?

You can find a complete listing of provider alerts on the [Provider Newsletters and Updates](#) page of our website.

Where can I find more information on COVID-19?

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana has updated its website to streamline communications and important notifications about COVID-19. Please visit <http://amerihealthcaritasla.com/covid-19> for update-to-date information for both providers and members, including frequently asked questions, cancellations and postponements, and important provider alerts from AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana and the Louisiana Department of Health.