OVERVIEW
This documents the Blue Cross & Blue Shield (BCBSRI) reimbursement policy when a preventive medicine Evaluation and Management (E/M) service and a new or established E/M office or other outpatient visit are filed on the same day by the same provider.

MEDICAL CRITERIA
Not applicable.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION
Not applicable.

POLICY STATEMENT
BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products
If a preventive medicine evaluation and management (E/M) service and a new or established E/M office or other outpatient visit are performed on the same date by the same provider or same group (same specialty), only one service will be reimbursed. Payment will be allowed on the first service that is submitted. Modifier 25 does not affect the allowance. Participating physicians and providers may not charge the member for the service that is not separately reimbursed, as the allowance is for the combined services. Only one copayment will apply for the office visit.

If a patient is seen on a separate encounter by the same provider or provider group (same specialty) on the same date for a problem that was not present during the preventive services exam, a separate office service may be reported and paid. (As claims systems will not be able to identify this unusual circumstance, claims will need to be submitted with documentation). The appropriate copayment will apply for the second visit on the same date of service.

Services are covered if a preventive medicine evaluation and management (E & M) service and a new or established E & M office or other outpatient visit are provided on the same date by a provider from a different specialty.

COVERAGE
Not applicable.

BACKGROUND
Not applicable.

CODING
BlueCHiP for Medicare and Commercial Products
Evaluation and Management Codes:
99201-99215

Preventive Medicine Services:
CPT codes 99381-99387; 99391-99397
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