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3 Title: Reassess Reimbursement Guidelines for Teaching Physician Supervision
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5 Introduced by: Steve Daveluy, MD, FAAD, for the Wayne County Delegation
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7 Original Author: Steve Daveluy, MD, FAAD
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9 Referred to: Reference Committee A
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11 House Action: **APPROVE**
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14 Whereas, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) allows a physician's assistant to
15 submit billing claims under a physician who is incident to the encounter for full reimbursement¹, and
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17 Whereas, the physician incident to the encounter with the physician's assistant must provide
18 "direct supervision," meaning the physician need only be present in the office suite, but not physically
19 present in the room², and
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21 Whereas, to submit a claim for a minor procedure, defined as requiring less than five minutes, CMS
22 requires the supervising physician to be present in the room for the entire procedure when performed by a
23 resident³, and
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25 Whereas, for longer, major procedures, CMS requires the supervising physician to be present for
26 key portions of the procedure, not the entire procedure, and
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28 Whereas, physician's assistant training, following a bachelor's degree, has an average length of
29 26.3 months⁴, including didactic and clinical training, and
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31 Whereas, medical students, following a bachelor's degree, complete four years of medical school
32 prior to entering residency training, and
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34 Whereas, for reimbursement of minor procedures, CMS requires a higher degree of supervision for
35 residents of all levels of training than for physician's assistants, even though residents have more training at
36 the beginning of their residency than physician's assistants have at the completion of their training, and
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38 Whereas, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Common Program
39 Requirements call for graduated supervision of residents with progressive authority and responsibility and
40 conditional independence⁵ in order to ensure that resident supervision is optimized to provide both high
41 quality patient care and resident training; therefore be it
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43 RESOLVED: That the Michigan Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA) ask our AMA
44 to recommend that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services change their policy to allow
45 reimbursement for services if the supervising physician is present for the key portions of all procedures
46 performed by residents whether considered minor or major.
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49 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

¹ Medicare Claims Processing Manual. Chapter 12

² Code of Federal Regulations 410.32 (b)(3)

³ CMS Manual System. Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing. Transmittal 2303. 100.1.2 Surgical Procedures

⁴ Physician Assistant Education Association, By the Numbers: Program Report 31, Washington, DC: PAEA, 2016

⁵ ACGME Common Program Requirements. VI. D. Supervision of Residents,
http://www.acgme.org/Portals/0/PFAssets/ProgramRequirements/CPRs_07012016.pdf