



**To:** MeridianHealth Providers  
**From:** MeridianHealth  
**State:** Illinois  
**Line of Business:** Medicaid  
**Date:** July 2018  
**Re:** Physician Assistant Billing Guidelines

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MeridianHealth (Meridian) and the Illinois Department of Health and Family Services (HFS) have come together to provide clarification on Physician Assistant billing guidelines for Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled into a managed care program. The managed care contracts between Meridian and HFS provide the organizations flexibility in contracting with healthcare service providers when coordinating care with patients.

In accordance with the Physician Assistant Practice Act of 1987 (225 ILCS 95/), services supplied by Physician Assistants are allowed to be billed and either reimbursed as described below:

1. Physician Assistants Enrolled in the Illinois Medical Assistance Program

Physician Assistants are allowed to bill and receive reimbursement directly when serving as the rendering provider so long as the Physician Assistant is registered in the Illinois Medical Assistance Program.

To facilitate accurate Encounters submission in this scenario, Meridian requires that performed services are to be billed with the enrolled Physician Assistant's name and NPI as the rendering provider in box 24J of the CMS - 1500 claim form / Loop 2310B on 837p electronic submission or in box 56 of the UB-04 claim form / Loop 2310D on 837i electronic submission.

2. Physician Assistants Not Enrolled in the Illinois Medical Assistance Program

If the Physician Assistant is not registered in the Illinois Medical Assistance Program, they will be able to perform procedures under the care of a supervision of a Physician enrolled in the Illinois Medical Assistance Program per 225 ILCS 95/.

To facilitate accurate Encounters submission in this scenario, Meridian requires that performed services are to be billed with the enrolled supervising physician's name and NPI as the rendering provider in box 24J of the CMS - 1500 claim form / Loop 2310B on 837p electronic submission or in box 56 of the UB-04 claim form / Loop 2310D on 837i electronic submission.

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## Enrollment Requirements:

As per the ACA requirement, Physician Assistants are required to register with HFS as a Medicaid Provider in order to render services to Illinois beneficiaries and receive reimbursement. These providers should follow HFS guidelines to register and certify in IMPACT by visiting [impact.illinois.gov](http://impact.illinois.gov).

Once registered, physician assistants are identified as Provider Type 089 on the HFS Provider Affiliation File sent weekly to Meridian. Eligible physician assistants (in good standing as actively enrolled) will be represented with "H" which stands for "Encounter Only Provider Type."

For additional information please contact your MeridianHealth Provider Network Development Representative or call 866-606-3700.

## Title Definitions

### Physician assistant

Any person who has been certified as a physician assistant by the National Commission on the Certification of Physician Assistants or equivalent successor agency and performs procedures under the supervision of a physician as defined in this Act. A physician assistant may perform such procedures within the specialty of the supervising physician, except that such physician shall exercise such direction, supervision and control over such physician assistants as will assure that patients shall receive quality medical care.

### Supervising Physician

A primary physician with direct authority over the physician assistant and assigns a variety of tasks and procedures. These tasks and procedures are delegated in accordance with a written supervision agreement.

### Alternate supervising physician

For the purpose of 225 ILCS 95/, any physician designated by the supervising physician to provide supervision in the event that he or she is unable to provide that supervision.

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