

Policy Statement

Policy statements and clinical policies are the official policies of the American College of Emergency Physicians and, as such, are not subject to the same peer review process as articles appearing in the journal. Policy statements and clinical policies of ACEP do not necessarily reflect the policies and beliefs of *Annals of Emergency Medicine* and its editors.

Medical Services Coding

Revised January 2019

Reaffirmed June 2013

Revised April 2006 with current title

Reaffirmed June 1999

Originally approved September 1986 as a Council Resolution titled "Coding Reform"

0196-0644/\$-see front matter

Copyright © 2019 by the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Medical Services Coding

[Ann Emerg Med. 2019;73:e95.]



Given the establishment of a uniform transaction code set by the Healthcare Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) believes that all private, state, and federal health care payers should use a national uniform system for identifying, measuring, and reporting physician or other qualified health care professional services. Consequently, there should be ongoing efforts to develop and maintain procedures and performance codes, definitions, documentation requirements, and other associated policies in regard to medical services in accordance with the following:

- Using appropriate physician or other qualified health care professional experience and expertise in such processes

- Fostering the implementation of reasonable definitions and recognition policies among all payers nationwide
- Establishing, modifying, or deleting codes in a timely manner, based on changing medical practice
- Having such codes, definitions, documentation requirements, and other associated use and reporting policies readily available whenever requested

Revised January 2019

Reaffirmed June 2013

Revised April 2006 with current title

Reaffirmed June 1999

Originally approved September 1986 as a Council Resolution titled "Coding Reform"

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annemergmed.2019.02.041>