

**AMA/Specialty Society
Relative Value Scale Update
Committee (RUC)
Medicare Medical Home
Demonstration Project
Recommendations**

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The RUC

- Multi-specialty committee that formulates recommendations for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Resource-Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS)
- RBRVS = Medicare physician fee schedule
- RUC represents the entire medical profession, with 23 of its 29 members appointed by medical specialty societies

Medicare Medical Home Demonstration Project

- Mandated by Congress through the Tax Relief & Health Care Act of 2006
- Conducted over 3 years (starting 1/1/09) in up to 8 states
- Legislative definition of medical home: *Large or small medical practices where a physician provides comprehensive and coordinated patient centered medical care and acts as the “personal physician” to the patient*
- Act requested that CMS use the RUC process to develop a case management fee and valuation


RUC Medical Home Workgroup

- February 2008 RUC formed a workgroup to formulate recommendations
- RUC workgroup met 12 times between 2/12/08 and 4/23/08
- Multi-specialty representation, including:
Osteopathy (Chair), Family Practice, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology, Geriatrics, Otolaryngology, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Psychiatry, Orthopedic Surgery, & Thoracic Surgery

RUC Medical Home Workgroup Charge

- Workgroup charged with providing recommendations on:
 - G code descriptors for each of the 3 tiers of the medical home
 - Average panel size per physician
 - Physician work RVUs & intra-service work
 - Direct practice expense inputs
 - Professional liability insurance crosswalk

RUC Recommendations

 RUC recommendations submitted to CMS on 4/29/08

 Posted on Web: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/18528.html>

RUC Recommendations: G Code Descriptors

- Three Tiers: 1, 2, & 3 [3 = most comprehensive]
 - Tier 1 Medical Home (Entry Level): Requires 10 of the designated core capabilities*
 - Tier 2 Medical Home (Typical): Requires 16 of the designated core capabilities*
 - Tier 3 Medical Home (Optimal): Requires 18 of the designated core capabilities* plus 3 of an additional 10 requirements

*Please see attached grid for details on core capabilities

RUC Recommendations: G Code Short Descriptor

Coordination of care across all of a patient's healthcare needs, provided in a Tier 1/2/3 medical home, per month

RUC Recommendations: G Code Long Descriptor

Direct physician supervision and management of the comprehensive and coordinated health care of a patient having one or more chronic conditions or prolonged illnesses as included on the CMS eligible disease list. These services are separate from and in addition to those provided as part of E/M services that may occur during the service period. Coordination of care across all of a patient's health care needs and responsibilities will occur whether or not an E/M service is provided and reported during the service period. Services include all of the following as necessary within a calendar month:

RUC Recommendations: Services Included In All Tiers

- Integrated planning
- Communication/coordination of care
- Development/revision of care plan
- Medication/OTC/herbal remedy reconciliation and tracking
- 7-day per week, 24-hour access to phone triage
- Physician-led staff training and oversight

RUC Recommendations: Differentiation Among Tiers

Tier 2

Includes all of Tier 1 services plus:

- ❑ Documented use of evidence-based medicine & clinical decision support tools
- ❑ Use of patient self-management plan
- ❑ Patient/family/caregiver education & support

RUC Recommendations: Differentiation Among Tiers

Tier 3

Includes all of Tier 2 services plus:

- ❏ Coordination of care between inpatient & outpatient services
- ❏ Measurement of performance regarding clinical quality & patient experience
- ❏ Use of health information technologies, including:
 - ❏ Patient registries
 - ❏ Secure systems that allow patient access to personal health information
 - ❏ Secure electronic communication between patient & health care team
 - ❏ Use of an electronic health record
 - ❏ Use of an electronic prescribing system

RUC Recommendations: Average Panel Size Per Physician

250

Medicare patients who will be eligible

&

who will agree to participate in the physician's
medical home

RUC Recommendations: Physician Work RVUs & Intra-Service Time

- Tier 1: **0.25** Relative Value Units (RVUs)
6.5 minutes of intra-service time
per patient per month
- Tier 2: **0.30** Relative Value Units (RVUs)
7.8 minutes of intra-service time
per patient per month
- Tier 3: **0.35** Relative Value Units (RVUs)
9.2 minutes of intra-service time
per patient per month


[Comparison to 99213: 0.92 RVUs & 15 minutes intra-service time]

RUC Recommendations: Direct Practice Expense Inputs

Direct practice expense (PE) inputs consist of:

- 📋 Clinical staff time
- 📋 Medical supplies
- 📋 Medical equipment

RUC Recommendations: Clinical Staff Time

-  Tier 1: **49 minutes** clinical staff time*
-  Tier 2: **66 minutes** clinical staff time*
-  Tier 3: **80 minutes** clinical staff time*

*Clinical staff type for all three Tiers = RN/LPN

[Comparison to 99213: 36 minutes clinical staff time (RN/LPN/MTA)]

RUC Recommendations: Medical Supplies

0.25 of a patient education booklet
for all 3 Tiers

RUC Recommendations: Tier 1 Medical Equipment

Tier 1 Medical Home contains no medical
equipment

RUC Recommendations: Tier 2 Medical Equipment

One desktop computer
with monitor & patient registry software

RUC Recommendations: Tier 3 Medical Equipment

Electronic health record system, which includes the following software:

- ❑ Disease management
- ❑ Point of care evidence-based decision support
- ❑ Electronic prescribing
- ❑ Laboratory test result tracking
- ❑ Automatic problem lists
- ❑ Referral history
- ❑ Diagnostic imaging storage
- ❑ Statistical analysis
- ❑ Patient registries
- ❑ Medication lists
- ❑ Reporting
- ❑ Patient education materials
- ❑ Workflow coordination
- ❑ Secure electronic communication with patients

RUC Recommendations: Tier 3 Medical Equipment

Electronic health record system, which includes the following hardware:

- ❑ One server
- ❑ One desktop computer with monitor
- ❑ Router
- ❑ Firewall
- ❑ Cable/DSL modem

RUC Recommendations: Tier 3 Medical Equipment

Other direct practice expenses for an electronic health record system:

- ❖ Maintenance/service contract
- ❖ Training services
- ❖ Data backup and recovery services
- ❖ Interfaces to practice management system, lab, etc.
- ❖ Data conversion/migration
- ❖ Licensing of commercial databases

RUC Recommendations: Professional Liability Insurance Crosswalk

Crosswalk to:

92025 Computerized corneal topography, unilateral or bilateral, with interpretation and report)

(work RVUs = 0.35 and PLI RVUs = 0.02)

or

99441 Telephone E/M service provided by a physician; 5-10 minutes

(work RVUs = 0.25 and PLI RVUs = 0.02)

[Note: PLI crosswalk relies on using a source code with a similar work RVU as the new code.]

Services Bundled into the Monthly Medicare Medical Home G Codes

- Anticoagulant Management (99363-99364)
- Medical Team Conference (99366-99368)
- Care Plan Oversight (99339-99340; 99374-99380)
- Counseling Services (99401-99420)
- Telephone Services (99441-99443; 98966-98968)
- Online Medical Evaluation (99444; 98969)
- Education & Training for Patient Self-Management (98960-98962; 99078)
- Review of Data/Preparation of Special Reports (99080; 99090; 99091)
- Medication Therapy Management Services (99605-99607)

Medical Home CPT Codes

Face-to-Face Services

- Office or Other Outpatient Services: 99201-99215
- Behavior Change Interventions (SBI Services): 99406-99408
- Education & Training for Patient Self-Management: 98960-98962 (non-physician)
- Medical Nutrition Therapy: 97802-97804 (non-physician)
- Health Behavior Assessment/Intervention: 96150-96155 (non-physician)
- Immunization Administration: 90465-90474

[NOTE: Some of these codes are not reportable during the same month as the Medicare Medical Home G codes.]

Medical Home CPT Codes

Non-Face-to-Face Services

- Telephone Services: 99441-99443 (physician) or 98966-98968 (non-physician)
- Online Medical Evaluation: 99444 (physician) or 98969 (non-physician)
- Medical Team Conference: 99366 (physician) or 99367-99368 (non-physician)
- Care Plan Oversight: 99339-99340 and 99374-99380

[NOTE: Some of these codes are not reportable during the same month as the Medicare Medical Home G codes.]

Medical Home CPT Codes

Special Services

Add on codes for:

- Afterhours care (99050)
- Regular evening, weekend, holiday care (99051)
- Emergency care in the office (99058)

Summary of RUC Recommendations

	Intra-Service Time	Physician work RVUs	Direct PE Inputs	PLI Crosswalk (92025 or 99441)
Tier 1	6.5 min	0.25	49 min RN/LPN 0.25 Patient Education Booklet	0.02
Tier 2	7.8 min	0.30	66 min RN/LPN 0.25 Patient Education Booklet 1 Desktop Computer w/Monitor & Patient Registry Software	0.02
Tier 3	9.2 min	0.35	80 min RN/LPN 0.25 Patient Education Booklet Electronic Health Record System	0.02