

<b>Division of Medicaid</b>	<b>New:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>State of Mississippi</b>	<b>Revised: X</b>	<b>Date: 02/01/05</b>
<b>Provider Policy Manual</b>	<b>Current:</b>	<b>04/01/06</b>
<b>Section: General Medical Policy</b>	<b>Section: 53.11</b>	
	<b>Pages: 1</b>	
<b>Subject: Physician Office Visits - Extended Hours</b>	<b>Cross Reference:</b>	

In an effort to encourage Medicaid beneficiaries to utilize appropriate services for urgent, non-emergency conditions rather than going to the emergency room, physician office visits provided during extended hours may be reimbursed with a fee in addition to an appropriate office visit charge. Extended hours fees are limited to visits for urgent situations that arise unexpectedly but are not emergencies that require the use of an emergency room as defined by the prudent layperson standard established by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

Extended hours office visits are defined as those that occur outside of ~~regular posted~~ regularly scheduled office hours. The extended hours office visit fee of \$15.00 must be billed using CPT code 99050, "~~Services requested after posted office hours in addition to basic service~~". "Services provided in the office at times other than regularly scheduled office hours, or days when the office is normally closed (eg., holidays, Saturday or Sunday), in addition to basic service". This code should be billed in addition to an appropriate evaluation and management (E/M) office visit procedure code and will be paid only if the associated office visit is covered. The extended hours office visit fee will not count toward the twelve (12) physician visits service limit.

The provider must maintain records that document "~~posted office hours~~" "regularly scheduled office hours". If changes are made to the schedule, the provider must maintain records that reflect the date of change, the ~~posted hours~~ regularly scheduled hours prior to the change, and the new hours. These records must be maintained for audit purposes.

The extended hours office visit fee may not be billed with CPT code 99211. The fee also may not be billed for regularly scheduled, non-urgent visits or when an appointment was scheduled for regular office hours but took place at another time because the regular schedule went overtime. Documentation of the visit time and the urgent situation that arose unexpectedly must be included in the medical record, and documentation of the appointment time must be available for review if requested.

Providers that are reimbursed based on cost-based methodology, i.e., encounter rates, such as Rural Health Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers, may not bill the extended hours office visit fee. Their costs for extended office hours should be included in their cost reports.