

October 2020

OVERVIEW:

Aetna Better Health of Louisiana (ABHLA) is aligned with the Louisiana Department of Health's Medicaid Services Manual, and would like to remind providers to refer to these manuals when submitting claims. If the manual requires additional guidance impacting reimbursement, the details will be outlined by ABHLA in a supporting reimbursement policy.

ABHLA reminds providers that inpatient services shall not be billed as outpatient, even if the stay is less than 24 hours. Per the [Louisiana Medicaid Hospital Provider Services manual](#), Section 25:3, the following requirements apply:

- All outpatient services except outpatient therapy performed within 24 hours of an inpatient admission shall be included on the inpatient claim.
- All outpatient services except outpatient therapy performed within 24 hours before an inpatient admission and 24 hours after the discharge shall be included on the inpatient claim. This includes outpatient services that are either related or unrelated to the inpatient stay.
- If an inpatient in one hospital has outpatient services performed at another hospital, the inpatient hospital is responsible for reimbursing the hospital providing the outpatient services. The inpatient hospital may reflect the outpatient charges on its claim.

Please note that providers may see reimbursement impacted if not aligned to the Louisiana Department of Health's Medicaid services manual within 30 days of the date of this reminder notification.

Questions and Support:

For questions, please contact LAProvider@AETNA.com or call 1-855-242-0802 and follow the prompts.