



Subject: Physicians Not Present at Delivery

Effective Date: 8/2019

POLICY

When a physician or qualified healthcare provider (QHCP) has provided antepartum care but is not present for the delivery, several factors will determine whether OSU Health Plan will pay for some or all of the delivery or postpartum care charges. OSU Health Plan will never, however, pay for more than one delivery charge.

DEFINITIONS

Maternity care includes antepartum care, delivery and postpartum care. These services are generally billed together under a global CPT code if provided by the same physician or group of physicians. If these services are not provided by the same physician (or group) they can be billed separately depending on the length of care provided.

The *Current Procedural Terminology* (CPT®) book identifies the global OB codes as:

- 59400 - Routine obstetric care including antepartum care, vaginal delivery (with or without episiotomy, and/or forceps) and postpartum care
- 59510 - Routine obstetric care including antepartum care, cesarean delivery and postpartum care
- 59610 - Routine obstetric care including antepartum care, vaginal delivery (with or without episiotomy, and/or forceps) and postpartum care, after previous cesarean delivery
- 59618 - Routine obstetric care including antepartum care, cesarean delivery, and postpartum care, following attempted vaginal delivery after previous cesarean delivery

PROCEDURE

If the provider performed all of the antepartum care and is planning to provide the postpartum care, but misses the delivery, OSU Health Plan will allow the following:

Status of Delivery	Service to bill	Codes to bill
Arrived after delivery but provided other care (e.g., delivery of placenta, episiotomy)	Global CPT code	59400, 59510, 59610, 59618
Could not be reached, or was not able to arrive due to being in surgery, etc.	Antepartum and postpartum codes, but not delivery	59425, 59426, 59430
If the attending physician missed the delivery, and a nurse delivered the baby, but physician completed the balance of care	Antepartum, postpartum and delivery of placenta	59425, 59426, 59430, 59414

REFERENCE

American Medical Association, Current Procedure Terminology (CPT®)

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) publications