

RURAL HEALTH CLINICS (RHC)

ND Medicaid covers services provided by Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) that are certificated from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and enrolled with ND Medicaid.

COVERED SERVICES

Payment to RHCs for covered services furnished to members is an all-inclusive rate for each encounter. For RHCs, the term “encounter” is defined as a face-to-face visit with the member during which a RHC service is rendered. Each encounter includes covered services by a medical professional plus related services and supplies. See Telehealth chapter for additional information on services rendered via telehealth.

A **medical encounter** may occur with the following practitioners:

- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Nurse Midwife
- Visiting Nurse
- Nurse Practitioner

A **mental health encounter** may occur with the following practitioners:

- Clinical (Licensed) Psychologist
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Encounters with more than one health professional and/or multiple encounters with the same health professionals on the same day and at a single location constitute a single encounter, except when one of the following conditions exist:

- After the first encounter, the member suffers an illness or injury requiring additional diagnosis or treatment; or
- The member has a medical visit and mental health visit.

When submitting claims for more than one encounter for a member on the same day at a single location, the RHC must bill the correct revenue code for each encounter and include the appropriate diagnosis codes (when applicable) on each claim.

VACCINES

Refer to the Immunizations policy for additional information on immunizations and immunization administration.

Vaccines administered in conjunction with a medical encounter are considered incident to the medical encounter and neither the vaccine nor the vaccine administration can be billed in addition to a medical encounter.

When the only service provided is a vaccine:

- The vaccine administration can be billed, but an encounter cannot be billed. The vaccine administration must be billed using Revenue Code 0771 (Vaccine administration) along with the appropriate CPT code.

If the vaccine is supplied by the Vaccine for Children (VFC) program, ND Medicaid will not make payment for the vaccine. ND Medicaid will only make payment for the vaccine administration; however, the claim must include Revenue Code 0636 (Drugs requiring detailed coding) and the appropriate CPT code for the vaccine. If the vaccine is not supplied by the VFC program and is currently covered by ND Medicaid, the vaccine will be reimbursed according to the Medicaid fee schedule using Revenue Code 0636 (Drugs requiring detailed coding) and the appropriate CPT code.

PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER (PCP) DESIGNATION¹

A RHC can be designated as a PCP; however, the clinic may not be used as a referring provider on claims. Referrals from RHCs must contain an authorization of the referral (signature, initials) from a provider associated with the clinic or a supervising physician of the clinic.

For additional information on the Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) program, see the PCCM policy.

BILLING GUIDELINES

Claims must be submitted using the following Revenue Codes when billing for:

Revenue Code 0521	Clinic Visit by Member to RHC/FQHC
Revenue Code 0522	Home Visit by RHC/FQHC Practitioner
Revenue Code 0524	Visit by RHC/FQHC practitioner to a member in a covered Part A stay at a skilled nursing facility (SNF)
Revenue Code 0525	Visit by RHC/FQHC practitioner to a member in a SNF (not in a covered Part A stay) of NF or ICF/MR or other residential facility

¹ The Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) Program ended on 12/31/2023. Information related to PCCM applies to dates of service prior to 01/01/2024.