

Teaching Physician Documentation

UVA Enterprise Professional Coding
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Medicare Teaching Physician Requirements

- ◆ When a service is performed by the resident, the teaching physician must perform a face to face service or be physically present during the key or critical portions of the service.
 - ◆ Documentation of the teaching physicians **physical presence** is a requirement when using resident documentation.
 - ◆ The attending's documentation must include an "I, me, or my" statement which supports their physical presence.
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- You must see the patient to have a billable service
 - Documentation: Use the approved SmartPhrases to meet the requirements

Approved SmartPhrases

Evaluation & Management (E&M) Services

- ◆ Ambulatory office visits

***.att** - I have personally interviewed and examined the patient. I have reviewed the provider's history, physical exam, assessment and management plans. I concur with or have edited all elements of the provider's note.*

Approved SmartPhrases

◆ Inpatient encounters

- **.att** - *I have personally interviewed and examined the patient. I have reviewed the provider's history, physical exam, assessment and management plans. I concur with or have edited all elements of the provider's note.*
- **.attdate** - *I have personally interviewed and examined the patient on ***. I have reviewed the provider's history, physical exam, assessment and management plans. I concur with or have edited all elements of the provider's note.*
 - This attestation has a date prompt which confirms billing dates as the attending often sees the patient or signs the note on the day after the resident's visit with the patient.
 - Teaching Physician may be documenting their note on a different day than they saw the patient. The Date of Service must be the date the attending saw the patient.
 - Confirm and/or change the date in the Date of Service field of the inpatient note to accurately reflect the date of the Teaching Physician's face-to-face visit.
 - This is important to ensure accuracy for billing.

Approved SmartPhrases

Procedures

- ◆ *.attentire - I was present for the entire procedure. I have edited the procedure note as appropriate.*
 - ◆ Used when the attending is PRESENT FOR ENTIRE PROCEDURE the attending's physical presence must be documented in the medical record.
 - ◆ The teaching physician's presence may be documented in notes made by the teaching physician, resident, or fellow.
 - ◆ This would be used for endoscopy and minor procedures

- ◆ *.attkey - I was present for the key/critical portions of the procedure which were *** and was immediately available for the remainder of the procedure. I have edited the procedure note as appropriate.*
 - ◆ Used when the attending is PRESENT FOR KEY or CRITICAL PORTIONS of the procedure.
 - ◆ The physical presence statement here must be documented by the teaching surgeon using patient-specific terms to describe the personal service provided or observed.

Approved SmartPhrases

- ◆ Teaching physician attestation for diagnostic testing

.attdxtest

I have personally reviewed the diagnostic test image/data/tracing/specimen and I agree with the documented findings and interpretation

Resident Only Services

When a service is provided solely by a resident/fellow (i.e. a teaching physician did not physically see the patient, nor perform the service), it is considered a “Resident Only” service

- ◆ Select the appropriate CPT code and diagnosis code that represents the service provided by the resident/fellow
- ◆ Select the modifier “ZR”

Resident Only Services

- ◆ The teaching physician is responsible for documenting their level of supervision provided using one of the following approved SmartPhrases:

.attreview - *I have reviewed or discussed the resident's history, physical exam, assessment, and management plans. I concur with the assessment and plan as documented.*

- This level of supervision is only billable to Non-Governmental payers.

.attprocdisc - *I discussed this procedure with the resident/fellow and agree with the note as written.*

- Used when the attending was not present for the entire or key or critical portions of the procedure, but discussed the procedure with the resident.
- This level of supervision is acceptable unless the procedure is considered a Major surgical procedure or other complex and dangerous procedures or situations.
- This level of supervision is only billable to Non-Governmental payers.

.attengsupr - *I provided general supervision*

- *This level of supervision is not billable*

Teaching Physicians Attestations

The **.attcombo** allows the Teaching Physician to attest to all the services provided in one visit without having to insert multiple attestations. Below are some options available in this combination attestation.

- ☐ I have seen and examined the patient.
- ☐ I have reviewed the provider's history, exam, assessment and management plans
- ☐ I have personally reviewed the diagnostic test image/data/tracing/specimen and I agree with the documented findings and interpretation
- ☐ I was present for the key/critical portions of the procedure which were ***
- ☐ I was present for the entire procedure

I concur with or have edited all elements of the provider's note.

Modifiers Used in Teaching Settings

- ◆ Modifier Selection for Teaching Services
 - GC (Resident Involved in Care)
 - ZR (Resident Only Services - Internal modifier)
 - .attemreview
 - .attemgensupr

Questions

Contact us with any questions at ASKProfessionalCoding@uvahealth.org



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