

North Carolina
State Health Plan
for Teachers and State Employees and
NC Health Choice for Children

www.shpnc.org

Emergency Room Services
Policy Number: AD0225

Active policy, not scheduled for routine review.

Definition:

Emergency room services are those which are rendered by the emergency department of a hospital in treatment of an illness, disease, or injury.

Coverage:

Emergency room services are covered under the hospital outpatient benefits of the Plan, subject to the copayment requirements.

Approval Procedures:

Prior approval is not required.

Limitations and Exclusions:

1. A copayment may be required as noted on benefit card unless the patient is admitted to the hospital, or no other reasonable care was available.
2. The copayment will be waived when the claim reports a diagnosis listed on the Claims Processing Contractor's Health Care Diagnosis data base with a special limitation class value of 004 or 006 (medical emergencies) or defined by the range of ICD9-CM diagnosis codes specific to trauma; and the service was received between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.; and the onset date reported on the claim is within 24 hours of the date of service; or the member provides information supporting the non-availability of alternative care.

Authority:

G.S. 135-42(b)
G.S. 108A-70.21(b)
G.S. 135-40.6(2)g [statute effective through 06/30/2008 for Predecessor Plan]
G.S. 135-40.6(4) [statute effective through 06/30/2008 for Predecessor Plan]
G.S. 108-70.21 (d)(4)

Reviewed:

October 1998
May 2000
March 2005

Revised:

March 2005
February 2009