Medical Transportation - Air: Billing Examples

Page updated: February 2025

Examples in this section are to assist providers in billing for air transportation on the *CMS-1500* claim form. Refer to the *Medical Transportation – Air* section of this manual for detailed policy information

Refer to the *CMS-1500 Completion* section of this manual for instructions to complete claim fields not explained in the following examples. For additional claim preparation information, refer to the *Forms: Legibility and Completion Standards* section of this manual.

Billing Tips:

When completing claims, do not enter the decimal points in ICD-10-CM codes or dollar amounts. If requested information does not fit neatly in the *Additional Claim Information* field (Box 19) of the claim, type it on an 8½ x 11-inch sheet of paper and attach it to the claim.

Emergency Air Transport

Figure 1. Emergency Air Transport.

This is a sample only. Please adapt to your billing situation. Sample attachments are not illustrated in this example.

In this example, an emergency air transport is being billed. HCPCS codes A0430 (ambulance service, conventional air services, transport, one way [fixed wing]) and A0435 (fixed wing air mileage, per statute mile) are entered in the *Procedures, Services or Supplies* field (Box 24D).

All emergency medical air transportation requires that the *EMG* field (Box 24C) is checked and a statement included in the *Additional Claim Information* field (Box 19), or on an attachment to the claim, showing that an emergency existed.

In this example, "See attachment for justification of codes A0430 and A0435" has been entered in the *Additional Claim Information* field (Box 19) to indicate that the documentation is attached to the claim. "The originating and destination addresses, including ZIP codes, should also be added to the *Service Facility Location Information* field (Box 32)."

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When billing HCPCS code A0430, the emergency statement may be made by the provider of transportation and must include:

- The nature of the emergency
- The name of the hospital to which a recipient was transported
- No acronym in place of a hospital name (for example, VMC). Abbreviations are acceptable (for example, Valley Med. Ctr.)
- The name of the physician (Doctor of Medicine [M.D.] or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine [D.O.]) accepting responsibility for the recipient. The name of the staff M.D., D.O. or emergency department medical director is acceptable.

Note: A physician's signature is not required

When billing HCPCS code A0435, documentation must include the Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates of the point of takeoff and point of landing using the degrees, minutes and decimal minutes (DD:MM.MMM) format only. Claims using any other format will be denied.

A maximum of 999 statute miles may be billed on one claim line. For distances greater than this, use multiple claim lines. In this example, the total distance is 2,617 statute miles. This distance has been split onto three separate claim lines of 999, 999 and 619 statute miles.

Enter the usual and customary charges in the *Charges* field (Box 24F).

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Figure 1. Emergency Air Transport.

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«Legend»

«Symbols used in the document above are explained in the following table.»

Symbol	Description
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