Disclaimer

This instructional material was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This instructional material may contain references or links to statutes, regulations or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

Cahaba, their employees, and their staff make no representation, warranty, or guarantee that this compilation of Medicare information is error-free, nor that the use of this manual will prevent differences of opinion or disputes with the Medicare Contractor as to the codes that are accepted or the amounts that will be paid to providers of services, and will bear no responsibility for the results or consequences of the use of this manual.

The information in this handbook is date-sensitive, and portions of the handbook may not be accurate or relevant due to changes in policies, procedures, and regulations. Users are urged to refer to the CMS website and the Cahaba website for the most current Medicare policies, procedures and regulations.
Introduction

Welcome to the Anesthesia Specialty Manual. Cahaba has developed this educational material to assist Medicare Part B providers in locating laws, regulations, policies and other guidelines directly related to your specialty.

CMS Internet Online Manual System
Several of the website links in this manual will direct you to the Center’s for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) website to help assure that you will have the most current information. In 2003, CMS transformed the CMS Program Manuals into a web user-friendly presentation and renamed it the CMS Internet Online Manual System.

The CMS Internet Online Manual System is used by CMS program components, partners, contractors, and State Survey Agencies to administer CMS programs. It offers day-to-day operating instructions, policies, and procedures based on statutes, regulations, guidelines, models and directives. The direct link to the CMS Internet Online Manual System is http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/index.html.

On the following page, you will locate several website links to various educational materials. When you locate a topic that you would like to review and the reference is to the CMS Online Manual, please note the section number and click on the website link. The website link will take you directly to the CMS Online Manual, publication and chapter. Scroll down and review the appropriate section number. After reviewing, you will need to close the website link and return to this specialty manual.
Anesthesia Specialty Manual

Pub. 100-01, General Information, Eligibility & Entitlement Manual, Chapter 5
Section 70       Physician Defined
Section 70.1     Doctors of Medicine and Osteopathy
Section 70.7     Interns and Residents
Section 90.3     Practitioners Defined
Section 90.4     Group Practice Defined


Pub. 100-04, Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 12
Section 50       Payment for Anesthesiology Services
  A. General Payment Rule
  B. Payment at Personally Performed Rate
  C. Payment at the Medically Directed Rate
  D. Payment at Medically Supervised Rate
  E. Billing and Payment for Multiple Anesthesia Procedures
  F. Payment for Medical and Surgical Services Furnished in Addition to Anesthesia Procedure
  G. Anesthesia Time and Calculation of Anesthesia Time Units
  H. Base Unit Reduction for Concurrent Medically Directed Procedures
  I. Monitored Anesthesia Care
  J. Definition of Concurrent Medically Directed Anesthesia Procedures
  K. Anesthesia Claims Modifiers
  L. Anesthesia and Medical/Surgical Service Provided by the Same Physician

Section 140       Qualified Nonphysician Anesthetist Services
Section 140.1     Qualified Nonphysician Anesthetists
Section 140.2     Entity or Individual to Whom Fee Schedule is Payable for Qualified Nonphysician Anesthetists
Section 140.3     Anesthesia Fee Schedule Payment for Qualified Nonphysician Anesthetists
Section 140.3.1   Conversion Factors Used on or After January 1, 1997 for Qualified Nonphysician Anesthetists
Section 140.3.2   Anesthesia Time and Calculation of Anesthesia Time Units
Section 140.3.3   Billing Modifiers
Section 140.3.4   General Billing Instructions
Section 140.4     Qualified Nonphysician Special Billing and Payment Situations
Section 140.4.1   An Anesthesiologist and Qualified Nonphysician Anesthetist Work Together
Section 140.4.2   Qualified Nonphysician Anesthetist and an Anesthesiologist in a Single Anesthesia Procedure
Section 140.4.3   Payment for Medical or Surgical Services Furnished by CRNAs
Section 140.4.4   Conversion Factors for Anesthesia Services of Qualified Nonphysician Anesthetist Furnished on or After January 1, 1992
Section 140.5     Payment for Anesthesia Services Furnished by a Teaching CRNA

Payment Jurisdiction among Local Carriers for Services Paid Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Anesthesia Services


National Correct Coding Initiatives Edits
http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/index.html

Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs)
http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/MUE.html

CMS Specialty Page “Welcome to the Anesthesiologists Center”
- 2013 Anesthesia Base Units by CPT Code
- 2013 Anesthesia Conversion Factor
- CMS Manuals & Transmittals
- Contacts
- Helpful Links
- Issues on Anesthesia
- MLN General Information
- MLN Articles
- MLN Educational Web Guides
- MLN Products
- Physician Fee Schedule
- Part 410.69 Basic rules and regulations for CRNA or AA
- Participation
http://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Anesthesiologists-Center.html

CMS – Medicare Coverage Determinations
You will find a searchable database for national and local coverage documents. You will use the “Overview” tab and either choose your document by searching by the ID OR choose your type of document (National or Local Coverage Documents), geographic area (by state), and a keyword or CPT/HCPCS code in the Quick Search sidebar.

- Alabama – Cahaba
- Georgia – Cahaba
- Tennessee – Cahaba


National Societies and Associations
- American Society of Anesthesiologists
  http://www.asahq.org/
- American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
  http://www.aana.com/
- Anesthesia Foundation
  http://www.anesthesiafoundation.org/
Self-Service Tools
Cahaba offers a variety of self-service options including:

**Cahaba University**
An educational program designed to provide a broad variety of Medicare related training to meet the needs of Medicare health care providers and suppliers. It is powered by *Centra*, a learning management system that allows registered users to manage their own learning.

**Resource Center for New Providers**
A dedicated web page for those individuals who are new to the Medicare program or to billing claims to Cahaba. This page contains basic information and resources to get you started.

**Medicare B Newsline**
The Cahaba *Medicare B Newsline* serves as your official notice of Medicare coverage and billing information. The files are available html and PDF format. Bulletins are available at no cost from our website.

**Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System**
The Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System is available to providers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with allowances for normal claims processing and system mainframe availability as well as normal IVR and system maintenance. IVR instructions are located on the Cahaba website on the Contact Us tab.

**Email-Notification Service**
We encourage everyone to subscribe to our e-mail lists to receive important Medicare updates in your e-mail box. This service is free. When you subscribe, we'll send you periodic e-mails with the latest news and updates from Cahaba and CMS.

**CMS Mailing List**
CMS offers an electronic mailing list service for those interested in receiving news from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). This service is optional. Please note that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) hosts all CMS listservs. CMS values your privacy. Your e-mail address, should you choose to subscribe, will be used only for sending listserv messages and will not be shared with third parties. Please enroll today at: [https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Aboutwebsite/EmailUpdates.html](https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Aboutwebsite/EmailUpdates.html). From this web site page, you can subscribe or unsubscribe from any of CMS's mailing lists.

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Visit the Cahaba [www.cahabagba.com](http://www.cahabagba.com). Cahaba welcomes your comments and questions. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Provider Call Center at 1-877-567-7271.