

Reminder: Big E&M Changes in 2023

February 09, 2023

The AMA summary contains a number of proposed E/M changes to several categories/service types that will have a major impact on many different provider types. **The new coding changes went into effect as of January 1, 2023.**

Significant E/M code changes for the following service types include:

- ⇒ **Inpatient/Observation** – Deletion of observation codes 99217-99226 with added language to the initial and subsequent inpatient codes 99221-99223 and 99231-99233. This would be more beneficial to the physicians with regards to reimbursement as the current observation codes are poorly reimbursed.
- ⇒ **Consultations for Inpatient/Outpatient** – Deletion of 99251 and 99241 which similarly reflect the deletion of level one services that went into effect this year for 99201.
- ⇒ **Prolonged Services** – 2 new codes 908X0 and 903X0, deletion of 99345 -99357 and revision of codes 99417 and 99483. As of 2021, codes 99345-99357 cannot be used with office visits. The proposal also indicates revisions to the service heading and guidelines.
- ⇒ **Emergency Department** – Revision of codes 99281-99285 and guidelines but no specifics at this time.
- ⇒ **Home Health/Residence** – Deletion of 12 E/M codes and revision of 8 E/M codes with guideline revisions in both areas. The proposal appears to consolidate these services as many are repetitive. See below for the codes deleted and their replacements

Deleted Codes:

- ⇒ **99324-NP Low – 20 mins**
- ⇒ **99325-NP Moderate – 30 mins**
- ⇒ **99326-NP Moderate / High – 45 mins**
- ⇒ **99327-NP High – 60 mins**
- ⇒ **99328-NP Complex – 75 mins**

Instead, you will use the codes below:

- ⇒ **99341-NP Straight Fwd 15 mins**
- ⇒ **99342-NP Low 30 mins**
- ⇒ **99344-NP Moderate 60 mins**
- ⇒ **99345-NP High 75 mins**

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Deleted codes:

- ⇒ **99334-EP Minor - 15 mins**
- ⇒ **99335-EP Low/Moderate - 25 mins**
- ⇒ **99336-EP Moderate / High - 40 mins**
- ⇒ **99337-EP High**

Instead, you will use codes below:

- ⇒ **99347-EP Minor - 15 mins**
- ⇒ **99348-EP Low/Moderate - 25 mins**
- ⇒ **99349-EP Moderate / High - 40 mins**
- ⇒ **99350-EP High**

In total, the number of proposed E/M code changes include:

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In total, the number of proposed E/M code changes include:

Service setting/type	New codes	Deleted codes	Revised codes
Hospital inpatient, including observation	0	7	11
Consults	0	2	8
Emergency department	0	0	5
Nursing facility	0	1	7
Domiciliary, rest home (eg, boarding home), or custodial care	0	9	0
Domiciliary, rest home (eg, assisted living facility), or home care plan oversight	0	2	0
Home	0	1	8
Prolonged	2	4	2

Reference: AMA Website