



Medicare Advantage Risk Adjustment in 2023

IMPORTANT: As of January 1, 2023, the health status for all DHMP Medicare Advantage, Exchange and Colorado Option members has been reset.

Each year, the list of Hierarchical Condition Categories (HCCs) and Risk Adjustment Factor Score (RAF) for each patient is reset. Denver Health Medical Plan, Inc. (DHMP) members are considered completely healthy until diagnosis codes are reported on claims.

In order for DHMP to receive Federal and State compensation for the care of its members, providers should:

- » Fully document and accurately code the evaluation and management of all severe and chronic conditions to ensure a full, complete and accurate clinical record of the patient's condition.
- » Reflect the work involved in caring for the patient, particularly those with complex and challenging health issues.

Documentation Guidelines:

- » Providers should document each clinical diagnosis to the highest degree of specificity per encounter, including all complications and/or manifestations, and including clear links to causal conditions.
- » Only confirmed conditions should be documented; no rule-out conditions or abnormal findings without clinical significance.
- » All known conditions, including chronic conditions, that affect the care and treatment of the patient at least once per year should be noted.
- » Providers should specifically document the condition and clinical significance, and pertinent changes using terminology such as decreased, increased, worsening, improving, unchanged or abnormal findings.

Additionally, for Medicare Advantage members, any diagnoses captured in telephone-audio only visits **do not** count towards risk adjustment. However, services provided using interactive audio and video telecommunications systems that permit real-time interactive communications **do** count toward risk adjustment. Physicians or qualified Non-Physician Practitioner (NPP), please make every effort to see Medicare Advantage members face-to-face at least once during 2023!

Reminder: Do not code "Diabetes with complications" and "Diabetes without complications" on the same encounter.

For additional information on Medicare Risk Adjustment, see DHMP's short training presentation at: DenverHealthMedicalPlan.org/Medicare-Advantage-Risk-Adjustment-Training-Providers

If you have any questions regarding this training or risk adjustment in general, contact:

- » Clinical Documentation Integrity (CDI) Team at DL_CDI@dhha.org; or
- » DHMP's Risk Adjustment Coder at Annette.Casias@dhha.org

Reference: ICD-10-CM Expert for physicians 2023

Coming up in your 2nd Quarter Risk Adjustment Newsletter:

- » **Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) changes for 2023**
- » **Annual Wellness Visit vs. Physical Exam**