



## Payment Policy 132 Early Elective Delivery

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the way in which Passport by Molina Healthcare, Inc. (Passport) will require providers to code for Early Elective Delivery (EED).

### Policy

Providers are required to code claims to indicate gestational age allowing Passport to identify EED claims and apply applicable claim coding edits as needed.

#### Gestational Age/Delivery Code – Field 19

Providers must complete field 19 of the CMS-1500 paper claim form or its electronic equivalents for all deliveries. Field 19 must contain the gestational age/delivery indicator and one of four-digit alphanumeric values.

- A. The 1st and 2nd digits represent the gestational age, based on the best obstetrical estimate. They must be numeric characters and values from 20 through 42.
- B. The 3rd and 4th digits represent the method of delivery. They must be one of the following alpha characters:
  1. LV – labor non-induced followed by vaginal delivery
  2. LC – labor non-induced followed by caesarean delivery
  3. IV – induced labor followed by vaginal delivery
  4. IC – induced labor followed by caesarean delivery
  5. CN – caesarean delivery without labor, nonscheduled (e.g., add-ons)
  6. CS – caesarean delivery, scheduled

If the gestational age/delivery indicator contains an LV or LC value or contains a gestational age of 39 or greater, the claim will not be subject to editing for EED.

If the gestational age/delivery indicator contains IV, IC, CN, or CS and the gestation age is less than 39, the claim will be subject to editing for EED however:

- A. If one of the diagnoses on the claim indicates medical necessity for an early delivery, the claim will be exempt from EED edits.
- B. Claims that contain the IV, IC, CN, or CS indicator with a gestation age of less than 39 weeks and do not have a medically necessary diagnosis for early induction of labor and delivery will be denied.

#### Weeks of Gestation Diagnosis Code

Passport requires Providers to bill the appropriate Weeks of Gestation ICD-10 diagnosis code (Z3A) indicating gestational age at the time of delivery. Claims that are not billed with the proper Z3A ICD-10 diagnosis code will be denied.

In addition, all professional delivery claims with dates of services 7/15/2023, or after with gestational age dates of 37 or 38 (late term) weeks will require a supporting medically necessary diagnosis code for the early delivery. Claims submitted without evidence of medical necessity will be denied.



## Documentation History

Type	Date	Action
Effective Date	9/10/2023	New Policy
Revised Date	4/17/2024	Updated definitions to add clarity

## References

[The Leap Frog Group \(EED definition\)](#)

[American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists \(ACOG\) Guidelines: Avoidance of Nonmedically Indicated Early-Term Deliveries and Associated Neonatal Morbidities](#)

[CMS-1500 Claim Form](#)

[Weeks of Gestation ICD-10 Diagnosis Code \(Z3A\)](#)

## Supplemental Information

### Definitions

Term	Definition
Early Elective Delivery	An induction or cesarean section performed prior to 39 completed weeks gestation without medical necessity.