



The Blue Advantage® Readmission Review Program is a post-payment audit for claims regarding Blue Advantage patients who are readmitted to the same acute inpatient facility or from a post-acute setting back to the same inpatient facility within 30 days of discharge.

Avoidable Readmission DRG payment will be recouped in full and the patient should be held harmless. Claims for avoidable readmissions should not be refiled for future payment.

What vendor will be used to complete these audits?

We have contracted with Cotiviti, an independent company, to perform these audits.

How will facilities receive notification of medical record requests?

Cotiviti will contact facilities for record requests.

Are there exclusions?

Yes, exclusions are outlined in the [policy](#).

Are there appeal options?

There is a reconsideration option through Cotiviti. Facilities will receive a letter advising that the readmission was deemed avoidable. Facilities will then have the option to provide new information within 30 days. This information should include an explanation of appeal rationale. Please make sure to follow appeal instructions outlined in the letter from Cotiviti.

What if a patient is noncompliant?

Patrius Health is sensitive to the fact that patients have responsibilities for following discharge plans and instructions. For this reason, patient noncompliance will be taken into account when reviewing medical records.

Where can I find examples of appropriate documentation?

There are a number of best practices published through CMS and on the [Institute for Healthcare Improvement](#) website. In addition, InterQual has a robust discharge planning module available.

What if the readmission reason is completely unrelated to the anchor admission?

Example: A patient treated for COPD discharges then readmits after a motor vehicle accident. The Blue Advantage Readmission Review Program is focused on identifying avoidable readmissions related to the anchor admission. The vendor's process utilizes algorithms and concepts to determine the claims that are most likely the result of an avoidable readmission. The readmission in the above example would be deemed unavoidable.

