

16.7 Healthfirst Consultation Payment Policy

In 2010, Medicare implemented a policy to no longer reimburse for consultation services. However, Healthfirst will pay for consultation services. Reimbursement for these services will be based on a new member visit or the hospital case rate. The consultation code mapping for Medicare-based contracts is listed below:

Billed Service Code	Billed Service Code Description	Paid Service Code	Paid at Rate Code Description
99241	Office consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 15 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.	99201	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new patient; physicians typically spend 10 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.
99242	Office consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 30 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.	99202	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new patient; physicians typically spend 20 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.
99243	Office consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 40 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.	99203	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new patient; physicians typically spend 30 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.
99244	Office consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 60 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.	99204	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new patient; physicians typically spend 45 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.
99245	Office consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 80 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.	99205	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new patient; physicians typically spend 60 minutes face-to-face with the patient and/or family.
99251	Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 20 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.	99221	Initial hospital care, per day, for the evaluation and management of a patient; physicians typically spend 30 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.
99252	Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 40 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.	99221	Initial hospital care, per day, for the evaluation and management of a patient; physicians typically spend 30 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.
99253	Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 55 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.	99222	Initial hospital care, per day, for the evaluation and management of a patient; physicians typically spend 50 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.
99254	Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 80 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.	99223	Initial hospital care, per day, for the evaluation and management of a patient; physicians typically spend 70 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.
99255	Inpatient consultation for a new or established patient; physicians typically spend 110 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.	99223	Initial hospital care, per day, for the evaluation and management of a patient; physicians typically spend 70 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit.