

Billing Reminder:
External cause diagnosis codes cannot be the primary diagnosis code

Keystone First would like to remind you to follow the ICD-10-CM Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting diagnosis when submitting External Cause of Injury Diagnosis Codes. External Cause of Injury Codes are ICD-10 codes that are used in order to provide classification to environmental events and circumstances as the cause of injury, and other adverse effects, for example:

- transport accidents
- poisoning and adverse effects of drugs, medicinal substances and biologicals
- accidental falls
- accidents caused by fire and flames
- accidents due to natural and environmental factors
- late effects of accidents, assaults or self- injury
- assaults or purposely inflicted injury
- suicide or self- inflicted injury

The guidelines specifically state that external diagnosis codes cannot be submitted as the primary diagnosis on professional or institutional claims whether the claim is submitted electronically or via paper.

Keystone First may deny or retract claims that are submitted on a:

- CMS 1500/837P with an external cause diagnosis code billed in box A of field 21 or loop 2300, segment HIXX-2 where XX=01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08,09,10,11,12.
- UB-04/837I with an external cause diagnosis code billed as the principal diagnosis in field 67 or loop 2300, segment HIXX-2 where XX=01,02,03,04,05,06,07,08,09,10,11,12.
- UB-04/837I with an external cause diagnosis code billed in the admitting diagnosis in field 69 or loop 2300, segment HI01-2

For complete details, please refer to the Claims Filing Instructions available on the provider website at www.keystonefirstpa.com → Providers → Claims and billing.

If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact your provider Account Executive or Provider Services at 1-800-521-6007.