

Notice of Material Amendment

Payment Policy #AR_PC_000016, Incident To Services: Physical Therapist Assistants (PTAs) and Certified Occupational Therapy Assistants (COTAs), has been updated to clarify the services subject to this policy.

This revision clarifies the existing application of the policy and does not represent a change in policy intent.

To provide additional clarity, the policy language under the Policy section has been revised. The previous statement, “This policy applies to professional claims only,” has been updated to state:

“This policy applies to professional services, including Home Health Services billed on a UB-04 claim form or an 837I electronic claim transaction.”

The intent of the policy has always been to apply to all outpatient PTA and COTA professional services, including home health services. However, Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield identified some variation in the application of the policy for home health services billed on a UB-04 claim form or an 837I electronic claim transaction across certain lines of business.

Effective November 1, 2026, covered "incident to" services rendered in accordance with this policy, including services billed on a UB-04 claim form or an 837I electronic claim transaction, will be reimbursed across all lines of business at 85% of the calculated PT/OT allowable amount.

This amendment clarifies existing reimbursement methodology and supports correct application of the policy across all applicable lines of business.