

URGENT CARE BILLING GUIDE

Place of Service 20, Global S-Codes, and Facility Fee Layouts

URGENT CARE POSITION

Urgent care centers occupy a unique position between scheduled primary care offices and high-cost hospital emergency rooms. Setting up your billing facility correctly is key to ensuring proper payment.

CORE STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS

- **Place of Service (POS) 20:** All claims generated within an urgent care facility must include POS 20 in Box 24B. Using standard office POS 11 is an improper billing practice.
- **Global Code S9088:** Many commercial managed care plans require billing code S9088 (Services provided in an urgent care center, global fee). This code triggers an all-inclusive flat payment that bundles basic laboratory work, minor medical supplies, and standard diagnostic x-rays into that single visit.
- **Professional vs. Facility Fees:** If the urgent care setup operates as an independent physician network within a larger facility, claims are split: the facility bills the overhead costs on an institutional form, while the provider bills their professional evaluation code separately.