

## OBSTETRIC SERVICES GLOBAL BILLING ENDS DECEMBER 31, 2026

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) recently released the following [provider news](#) regarding the upcoming elimination of global CPT codes and the recommendation by the American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists (ACOG) to begin billing by component for members who start prenatal care in 2026 and are expected to deliver in 2027:

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) enrolled providers can currently bill obstetric services either globally (bundled coding) or by component; however, the American Medical Association (AMA) is eliminating the global CPT codes effective Jan. 1, 2027. Providers have until Dec. 31, 2026, to access the global codes.

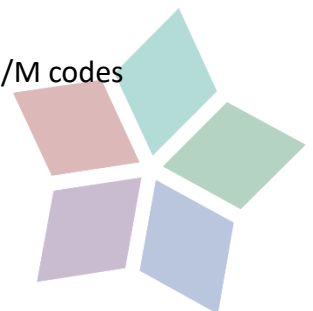
Global codes bundle all prenatal visits, delivery, and postpartum care into a single claim. Under the new system, each phase of care — prenatal, labor management, delivery, and postpartum — will be billed separately as services are provided. DHS will follow updated billing guidance from the ACOG.

### **ACOG recommends providers switch to billing by component for members who begin prenatal care in 2026 and are expected to deliver in 2027.**

- For members who begin prenatal care in 2026 and are expected to deliver in 2027, providers should bill each prenatal visit using the appropriate Evaluation and Management (E/M) code (99202–99499); and append the TH modifier to indicate the visit is for obstetric care. ACOG recommends providers begin this by June 1, 2026, and no later than Sept. 1, 2026.
- Providers can separately bill services that were previously bundled into the global code, including nutrition counseling and other medically necessary services, in the new coding structure. Bill these using the appropriate codes with the E/M visit.

### **Timeline**

- June 1, 2026: Providers are encouraged to begin billing prenatal visits with E/M codes (99202–99499) + TH modifier





## Bulletin/Update

- Sept. 1, 2026: Providers are encouraged to fully transition to using the appropriate E/M codes (99202-99499) + TH modifier.
- Jan. 1, 2027: Global obstetric care services codes are no longer valid. DHS fully transitions to the new AMA coding methodology.
- Refer to [ACOG Maternity Care Coding Resources](#) for guidance and tools to support this transition.

For providers who are unable to meet this timeline, ACOG issued the following recommendations for how to continue billing bundled codes in 2026 for pregnant people who are expected to deliver in 2027:

- May 15 to July 14, 2026: Use CPT code 59426 with new delivery only codes to account for anticipated 7 or more prenatal visits
- July 15 to Sept. 1, 2026: Use CPT code 59425 with new delivery only codes to account for anticipated 4 to 6 prenatal visits
- Sept. 1, 2026, and onward: Full transition to E/M codes as it is likely obstetric providers will only provide 1 to 3 prenatal visits before delivery

Call the MHCP Provider Resource Center at 651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411 with questions about this message.



Bulletin/Update

## **South Country Provider Contact Center**

**1-888-633-4055**

**Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

The Provider Contact Center staff are available as your first point of contact to assist with the following.

Member benefit coverage

Authorization verification

Website questions

Claims billing and processing guidelines

Remittance adjustment code details and payment information

Provider web portal issues

Claim rejection guidance

General information

South Country wants to ensure providers are reimbursed for services provided to our members and following all billing guidelines. Our staff are committed to support and guide you in understanding all South Country processes and procedures. In addition, callers that utilize our Provider Contact Center are provided a reference number that identifies your call in our system. Please keep the reference number in your records to refer to if you have any additional questions or need to check the status of an open issue. The reference number will help the representative locate your issue quickly.