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March 30, 2026

Dr. Gregory Buran
Senior Medical Director
Wellmark
1331 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309-2901

Sent via email: burang@wellmark.com

Dear Dr. Buran:

I am contacting you on behalf of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM), an organization with more than 9,000 individual members and 2,400 AASM-accredited sleep programs, dedicated to advancing sleep care and enhancing sleep health to improve the lives of patients with sleep disorders.

I am writing to bring to your attention an inaccuracy in your policy regarding the billing for diagnostic sleep studies, specifically the use of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes 95810 and 95811. The current policy does not allow 95810 and 95811 to be reimbursed if billed within 30 days of each other. However, this policy is in conflict with established clinical practice guidelines provided by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM). According to AASM, CPT codes 95810 and 95811 represent two distinct tests performed for different purposes and on separate nights:

- CPT 95810 is used for polysomnography to diagnose sleep disorders.
- CPT 95811 is utilized for polysomnography with titration of therapy, such as Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP).

The AASM Clinical Practice Guideline for Diagnostic Testing for Adult Obstructive Sleep Apnea does not establish a required timeframe between diagnostic polysomnography and in-laboratory PAP titration studies. Decisions regarding the need for repeat diagnostic testing are based on changes in clinical status and physician judgment, not the age of a prior study. These tests are often necessary for comprehensive patient care and cannot be combined or restricted. Denying payment for either code when

billed separately but within 30 days contradicts their appropriate clinical and procedural application.

The AASM urges Wellmark to review and amend this policy to align with established clinical practice guidelines. Doing so will ensure accurate billing practices and support the delivery of high-quality care for your members. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to your response. If you have any questions or would like to discuss, please contact AASM Director of Quality & Health Policy, Diedra Gray at dgray@aasm.org.

Sincerely,

Gabriela De Bruin, MD
Chair, AASM Coding and Reimbursement Advisory Committee