



Department of Medicaid

John R. Kasich, Governor
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Claims for Specialty Care Transport (SCT)

Specialty care transport (SCT), represented by HCPCS procedure code A0434, is "interfacility transport of a critically injured or ill individual by ground ambulance and the provision of medically necessary supplies and services at a level beyond the scope of an EMT-paramedic that must be furnished by one or more health professionals in an appropriate specialty area (e.g., emergency or critical care nursing, emergency medicine, respiratory care, cardiovascular care) or by an EMT-paramedic with additional training" [OAC 5160-15-01(B)(23)]. SCT functions as mobile intensive care for transportation between hospitals (or between a skilled nursing facility and a hospital).

Three criteria to determine whether a ground ambulance service can be claimed as SCT:

1. The passenger was taken from one hospital to another or from a skilled nursing facility to a hospital.
2. The passenger was critically injured or ill (i.e., at immediate risk of deterioration or death).
3. A paramedic with standard training could NOT provide all treatment that was expected to be needed while the passenger was on board, and a specialist (or a paramedic with extra training) provided care during the trip.

Ambulance service that fails to meet all three of these criteria is not SCT.

The provider must follow the prior authorization process after the specialty care transport has taken place. The prior authorization number must be included on the claim.