



# **SOUTHWOODS**

---

# **HEALTH**

## **Provider-Based Billing**

While looking for ways to improve the quality of accessible healthcare in the Mahoning Valley, increase patient satisfaction and improve outcomes, The Surgical Hospital at Southwoods has expanded its scope of outpatient services.

Outpatient sites owned by The Surgical Hospital at Southwoods are considered outpatient departments of the hospital, sometimes referred to as “provider based.”

### **What is provider-based billing?**

“Provider based” is a Medicare classification. It means hospitals have met specific regulations to have their outpatient offices and clinics classified as such. Most large hospital systems are classified as provider based by Medicare, which results in uniform billing or “provider-based billing.”

Provider-based billing is a type of billing for clinical services rendered in a hospital outpatient department, which could include a medical office or outpatient clinic. When services are provided by a provider based office or clinic, a portion of the billed service is charged as a hospital charge with a facility fee. This billing model applies to all patients, not just those covered by Medicare.

### **Why provider-based billing?**

Provider-based billing is used by many integrated health care systems across the nation, including all local systems right here in the Valley.

Patients benefit from provider-based billing because all provider based locations are subject to the same rigorous operational and strict quality standards established by the Joint Commission, an independent, not-for-profit, organization that certifies hospitals and services in the United States and abroad.

These standards are monitored and enforced by the Joint Commission. Joint Commission certification is recognized worldwide as a symbol of quality, recognizing a hospital’s commitment to meeting certain performance standards in the course of delivering clinical services.

### **How does provider-based billing impact me?**

How you receive care at Southwoods facilities will remain the same. You will continue to receive compassionate, quality care from the same providers you have come to know and trust. Scheduling for appointments and testing will not change.

Your patient billing statement for each visit or service you receive will show:

- One charge for the professional services rendered by the provider you see; and
- One charge for the facility, which covers the use of the room, any medical or technical supplies, equipment and support staff.

Benefits may be different for certain outpatient services at a provider-based billing location. Cost of care will depend on your particular insurance coverage. You will need to review your insurance plan to determine what is covered and what you are responsible for.

### **Who should I contact if I have questions about my bill?**

We recommend patients review their insurance benefits and contact their insurance provider prior to receiving services to determine what their policy will pay and what out-of-pocket expenses may be incurred. Ask specifically about this type of billing and whether your plan covers facility charges or

provider-based billing. Your insurance carrier is the best source to provide you with this information since they know the benefit criteria of your plan, as well as how much they've paid out on behalf of the patient for ALL services at all locations in a year.

The Southwoods Health billing office is also able to assist you, answering questions and managing concerns you may have related to your bill. Call **(330) 729-8086** to talk to a Southwoods Health billing representative.

### **Where are Southwoods' Provider-Based locations?**

The following are the Southwoods locations that currently utilize provider-based billing:

- The Surgical Hospital at Southwoods
  - 7620 Southern Blvd., Boardman, Ohio 44512
- Southwoods Cardiology
  - 250 DeBartolo Place, Suite 2750, Boardman, Ohio 44512
- Southwoods Orthopaedics
  - 1450 S. Canfield-Niles Rd., Austintown, Ohio 44515
  - 16687 Saint Clair Ave., Suite 101, Calcutta, Ohio 43920
  - 1335 Belmont Ave., Youngstown, Ohio 44512
- The Southwoods Pain & Spine Center
  - 250 DeBartolo Place, Boardman, Ohio 44512
    - This location includes: Advanced Spine, Orthopaedics, Pain Management, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation and Rheumatology services
- Southwoods Sleep Centers
  - 1450 S. Canfield-Niles Rd., Suite E, Austintown, Ohio 44515
  - 7629 Market St., Suite 250, Boardman, Ohio 44512
- Southwoods Advanced Urology
  - 904 Sahara Trail, Poland, Ohio 44514