

## Split and Shared Visits

*Scenario:* Hospital Outpatient Department - A patient, Mr. Thomas, meets with his physician and an APRN for an established patient visit. The APRN takes the patient's history of present illness and examines the patient. The physician sees the patient and develops the treatment plan. The APRN dictates the note summarizing the service. The attending physician co-signs the note.

*Question:* Does this documentation meet Medicare's requirements for a Split and Shared E/M Visit?

*Answer:* No, per the CMS Internet only Manual, 100-04, Chapter 12, Physicians and Non-physician Practitioners, Section 100; A split/shared E/M visit is defined by Medicare Part B payment policy as a medically necessary encounter with a patient where the physician and a qualified NPP each personally perform a substantive portion of an E/M visit face-to-face with the same patient on the same date of service. A substantive portion of an E/M visit involves all or some portion of the history, exam or medical decision making key components of an E/M service. The physician and the qualified NPP must be in the same group practice or be employed by the same employer.

Both the physician and the NPP must each **personally** perform part of the visit, and **both** the physician and the NPP must document the part(s) that he or she personally performed.

For additional information regarding CMS's a split/shared E/M visit please click on the below link: <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/clm104c12.pdf>