



EXAM PAYMENT

safeta.org/payment

Can Healthcare Providers Bill The Patient's Insurance For A Medical Forensic Examination (MFE)?

- If states are using STOP funds to pay for the MFE, they may not require the patient to seek reimbursement from their private health insurance.
- This practice is not expressly prohibited by VAWA 2013 - Programs can bill a patient's private insurance, but the patient cannot be charged for any out-of-pocket costs (e.g., insurance co-pays, deductibles, or any other out-of-pocket costs that might not be covered by insurance).

Common ICD-10-CM & CPT codes for the MFE:

ICD-10-CM:

- Adult Sexual Abuse/Rape
 - Confirmed: T74.21* | Suspected: T76.21*
- Child Sexual Abuse
 - Confirmed: T74.22* | Suspected: T76.22*

CPT:

- 99281 – 99288: ED services, detailed history, and exam
- 99070: Supplies and materials (e.g., digital photography/materials/supplies).

*Non-billable/non-specific code. Not used for reimbursement as there are multiple codes below it that contain a greater level of detail.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 2013:

A patient must be able to request an MFE, and the patient cannot receive a bill or pay for co-payments. Patients are not required to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law enforcement. The State, Tribal Government, local government, or other governmental entity:

- May not reimburse the patient for out-of-pocket costs for the exam. The MFE must be FREE of charge.
- The state must also coordinate with healthcare to notify victims of sexual assault of the availability of exams without cost.

Patients who have experienced sexual assault have the right to a patient-centered, trauma-informed medical forensic examination (MFE), with the promotion of a victim-centered reporting process. Except in situations covered by mandatory reporting laws, patients, not healthcare providers, make decisions to report a sexual assault to law enforcement. Regardless of the patient's reporting status, an MFE should be offered for FREE.

Please visit SAFEta.org/payment for more information.

SAFE*ta*.org
The Ultimate Source for Sexual Assault
Forensic Examiner *Technical Assistance*