



TO:                    Our Medicare and Blue Shield Patients

SUBJECT:            Dual claims and co-pays for office visits with hearing tests

As part of your evaluation today, your doctor may order a hearing test, which is performed by one of our Doctors of Audiology.

Medicare and Blue Shield require that audiologists credential with them just like our physicians. What this means is our audiologists must bill under their own provider number for all services provided to Medicare and Blue Shield patients. Because we have a contractual relationship with both Medicare and Blue Shield, we are required to abide by our contracts and submit two **separate** claims to your insurance company, one for the doctor's visit and one for the hearing tests performed by our Doctors of Audiology.

How does this affect you? If your insurance company requires a co-pay, Medicare and/or Blue Shield may process a co-pay on **each** claim because the providers are different. As dictated by your insurance company, you would then be responsible for two co-pays, one for the office visit and the other for the hearing test.

If you have any questions about this policy, please contact Medicare and Blue Shield. These policy guidelines originate from The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Medicare) and/or your insurance company.