

February 9, 2015

Montana Healthcare Programs Notice

All Providers

New HCPCS Modifiers – XE, XP, XS, and XU

Four new HCPCS modifiers have been established for claims with dates of service on or after January 1, 2015. Use of the new modifiers is currently optional; however, you may choose to use them to specify more clearly the clinical situations in which Modifier 59 is reported.

- XE – Separate encounter: a service that is distinct because it occurred during a separate encounter
- XP – Separate practitioner: a service that is distinct because it was performed by a different practitioner
- XS – Separate structure: a service that is distinct because it was performed on a separate organ / structure
- XU – Unusual non-overlapping service: the use of a service that is distinct because it does not overlap usual components of the main service

These modifiers may be used for clinical situations in which 2 HCPCS/CPT codes are reported by the same provider on the same date of service **and** that are currently indicated by appending Modifier 59 (Distinct Procedural Service) to a HCPCS/CPT code. The use of one of these modifiers replaces the use of Modifier 59 on a line item.

Modifier 59 is one of several modifiers designated as Medicaid National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Procedure-to-Procedure (PTP)-associated modifiers. When an NCCI PTP-associated modifier is appropriately appended to one of the codes in a PTP edit pair that has a Correct Coding Modifier Indicator (CCMI) of 1, the edit is bypassed.

Information about PTP-associated modifiers in general and specifically Modifier 59 is in Chapter 1 (page I-20) of the Medicaid NCCI Policy Manual (Rev. 11/14), on the [Medicaid NCCI website](#).

Modifier 59 remains a valid PTP-associated modifier. Additional information about Modifier 59 can be found in Modifier 59 Article (Rev. 10/14) also posted on the Medicaid NCCI website. The general principles described in the article apply to the new modifiers.

Contact Information

For claims questions or additional information, contact Provider Relations at 1-800-624-3958 (toll-free, in/out of state) or 406-442-1837 (Helena) or via e-mail at MTPRHelpdesk@xerox.com.

Visit the Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Information website at <http://medicaidprovider.mt.gov>.