

Update to Procedure to Modifier Policy for “Always Therapy” Codes – Effective July 1, 2019

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan is updating its Procedure to Modifier Policy for claims for dates of service on or after July 1, 2019. Physical therapy (GP), occupational therapy (GO) or speech-language pathology (GN) modifiers will be required on “Always Therapy” codes to align with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

CMS requires an “Always Therapy” code for certain services regardless of who performs them. CMS also requires a specific therapy modifier to indicate whether they’re provided under a GN, GO or GP plan of care.

You can view a list of codes that require a specific therapy modifier and the full policy at UHCprovider.com > Menu > Policies and Protocol > Community Plan Policies > Reimbursement Policies for Community Plan.

Note About Reimbursement Policies

As with all UnitedHealthcare Community Plan policies, other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or in some cases supersede this policy. These factors include but are not limited to federal and/or state regulatory requirements, physician or other provider contracts, and/or the member’s benefit coverage documents. Unless otherwise noted, these reimbursement policies apply to services reported using the CMS-1500 or its electronic equivalent, or its successor form.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan reimbursement policies don’t address all issues related to reimbursement for services rendered to our members, such as the member’s benefit plan documents, our medical policies and the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Administrative Guide or Care Provider Manual. Meeting the terms of a particular reimbursement policy is not a guarantee of payment. Likewise, retirement of a reimbursement policy affects only those system edits associated with the specific policy being retired. Retirement of a reimbursement policy is not a guarantee of payment. Other applicable reimbursement and medical policies and claims edits will continue to apply.

If there’s an inconsistency or conflict between the information in this provider notification and the posted policy, the provisions of the posted reimbursement policy prevail.

We’re Here to Help

If you have questions about policy updates, please contact your Network Account Manager or Provider Advocate. Thank you.