

**Services and Modifiers Not Reimbursable to Health Care Professionals, Professional**

<b>Policy Number</b>	2019R0124A	<b>Annual Approval Date</b>	7/11/2018	<b>Approved By</b>	Reimbursement Policy Oversight Committee
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**IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT THIS REIMBURSEMENT POLICY**

You are responsible for submission of accurate claims. This reimbursement policy is intended to ensure that you are reimbursed based on the code or codes that correctly describe the health care services provided. UnitedHealthcare reimbursement policies may use Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) or other coding guidelines. References to CPT or other sources are for definitional purposes only and do not imply any right to reimbursement.

This reimbursement policy applies to all health care services billed on CMS 1500 forms and, when specified, to those billed on UB04 forms. Coding methodology, industry-standard reimbursement logic, regulatory requirements, benefits design and other factors are considered in developing reimbursement policy.

This information is intended to serve only as a general reference resource regarding UnitedHealthcare’s reimbursement policy for the services described and is not intended to address every aspect of a reimbursement situation. Accordingly, UnitedHealthcare may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this policy to health care services provided in a particular case. Further, the policy does not address all issues related to reimbursement for health care services provided to UnitedHealthcare enrollees. Other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or, in some cases, supersede this policy. These factors may include, but are not limited to: legislative mandates, the physician or other provider contracts, the enrollee’s benefit coverage documents and/or other reimbursement, medical or drug policies. Finally, this policy may not be implemented exactly the same way on the different electronic claims processing systems used by UnitedHealthcare due to programming or other constraints; however, UnitedHealthcare strives to minimize these variations.

UnitedHealthcare may modify this reimbursement policy at any time by publishing a new version of the policy on this Website. However, the information presented in this policy is accurate and current as of the date of publication.

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**Application**

This reimbursement policy applies to services reported using the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (a/k/a CMS-1500) or its electronic equivalent or its successor form. This policy applies to all products, all network and non-network physicians and other qualified health care professionals, including, but not limited to, non-network authorized and percent of charge contract physicians and other qualified health care professionals.

**Policy**

**Overview**

All codes published on the National Physician Fee Schedule (NPFS) by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are assigned a status code. The status code indicates whether the code is separately payable if the service is covered.

**Reimbursement Guidelines**

Per the public use file that accompanies the NPFS Relative Value File, the following status indicators are listed:

<b>Status Code:</b>	
E	These codes are for items and/or services that CMS chose to exclude from the fee schedule payment by regulation. No RVUs are shown, and no payment may be made under the fee schedule for these codes. Payment for them, when covered, generally continues under reasonable

	charge procedures.
M	Measurement codes. Used for reporting purposes only.
Q	Therapy functional information code (used for required reporting purposes only).
X	These codes represent an item or service that is not in the statutory definition of "physician services" for fee schedule payment purposes. No RVUS or payment amounts are shown for these codes, and no payment may be made under the physician fee schedule.

Consistent with CMS and in accordance with correct coding, UnitedHealthcare will deny select status indicator E and X codes reported on a CMS-1500 form or its electronic equivalent. Refer to the "Attachments" section for a complete list of codes.

In addition, UnitedHealthcare will also deny codes that have the CMS NPFS Relative Value File designation of status M or status Q reported on a CMS-1500 form as these are designated "for reporting purposes only." Refer to the "Attachments" section for a complete list of codes.

### Modifiers

In accordance with the CPT book and CMS, the following modifiers have been approved and designated for use by ambulatory surgery centers (ASC) or in the outpatient hospital setting. UnitedHealthcare will deny codes appended with these modifiers when reported by a physician or other health care professional:

Modifier	Description
27	Multiple Outpatient Hospital E/M Encounters on the Same Date
73	Discontinued Out-Patient Hospital/Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Procedure Prior to the Administration of Anesthesia
74	Discontinued Out-Patient Hospital/Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Procedure After Administration of Anesthesia
PO	Services, procedures and/or surgeries provided at off-campus provider-based outpatient departments

The following modifiers represent services that are funded by a county, state or federal agency and therefore additional reimbursement for such services would not be appropriate. With the exception of ambulance transport providers which use the modifier SE to report the origin and destination of an ambulance transportation, UnitedHealthcare will deny codes appended with the following modifiers when reported by any physician or other health care professional.

Modifier	Description
SE	State and/or federally-funded programs/services; Ambulance transportation from Scene of accident or acute event to Residential, domiciliary, custodial facility (nursing home, not skilled nursing facility)
SL	State supplied vaccine
H9	Court-ordered
HU	Funded by child welfare agency
HV	Funded state addictions agency
HW	Funded by state mental health agency
HX	Funded by county/local agency
HY	Funded by juvenile justice agency
HZ	Funded by criminal justice agency
QJ	Services/items provided to a prisoner or patient in state or local custody, however the state or local government, as applicable, meets the requirements in 42 CFR 411.4 (B)

	TR	School-based individualized education program (IEP) services provided outside the public school district responsible for the student	
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## Definitions

<b>Same Individual Physician or Other Qualified Health Care Professional</b>	The same individual rendering health care services reporting the same Federal Tax Identification number.
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## Questions and Answers

1	<p><b>Q:</b> Why are only select Status E and X codes not reimbursed when reported by health care professionals?</p> <p><b>A:</b> The codes are selected based on CMS or CPT coding direction or policy.</p>
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## Attachments: Please right-click on icon to open file.

	A list of Status E and Status X Codes.
	A list of Status M and Status Q Codes.

## Resources

American Medical Association, *Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®)* and associated publications and services

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) Relative Value Files

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS Manual System and other CMS publications and services

## History

<b>1/1/2019</b>	Policy Version Change Added the word Professional to the policy title Application Section: Removed Community and State and Medicare and Retirement information Attachments Section: Status M and Q lists updated. History Section: Entries prior to 1/1/2017 archived
<b>7/11/2018</b>	Annual Approval Date Change (no new version)
<b>6/4/2018</b>	Policy Title Change. Healthcare changed to Health Care. No new version.
<b>4/1/2018 – 12/31/18</b>	Attachment Section: Status E and X Codes and Status M and Q Codes lists updated
<b>1/1/2018 – 3/31/2018</b>	Annual Policy Version Change Modifier Section: Modifier CP removed Attachment Section: Status M and Q Codes lists updated History Section: Entries prior to 1/1/2016 archived
<b>7/12/2017</b>	Policy Approval Date Change, Logo, Preamble and Footer have been updated. (no new version)
<b>1/1/2017 – 12/31/2017</b>	Annual Policy Version Change Attachment Section: Status E and X Codes and Status M and Q Codes lists updated History Section: Entries prior to 1/1/2015 archived