

# SPLIT SURGICAL PACKAGE POLICY

**Policy Number:** ADMINISTRATIVE 186.13 TO

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2018

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<b>Related Policies</b>
None

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The services described in Oxford policies are subject to the terms, conditions and limitations of the member's contract or certificate. Unless otherwise stated, Oxford policies do not apply to Medicare Advantage members. Oxford reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify policies as necessary without prior written notice unless otherwise required by Oxford's administrative procedures or applicable state law. The term Oxford includes Oxford Health Plans, LLC and all of its subsidiaries as appropriate for these policies.

Certain policies may not be applicable to Self-Funded members and certain insured products. Refer to the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage to determine whether coverage is provided or if there are any exclusions or benefit limitations applicable to any of these policies. If there is a difference between any policy and the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage, the member specific benefit plan document or Certificate of Coverage will govern.

UnitedHealthcare may also use tools developed by third parties, such as the MCG™ Care Guidelines, to assist us in administering health benefits. The MCG™ Care Guidelines are intended to be used in connection with the independent professional medical judgment of a qualified health care provider and do not constitute the practice of medicine or medical advice.

## APPLICABLE LINES OF BUSINESS/PRODUCTS

This policy applies to Oxford Commercial plan membership.

## APPLICATION

This Reimbursement Policy applies to services reported using the UB-04 claim form, the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (a/k/a CMS-1500), or their electronic equivalents or their successor forms. This policy applies to all network and non-network providers, including hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, 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.

## OVERVIEW

The Surgical Package consists of the preoperative, surgical, and postoperative services. A Split Surgical Package occurs when the postoperative care is rendered by a physician other than the physician performing the surgical service. For example, one physician performs the surgical service only and turns over the postoperative management to a separate physician (not within the Same Group Practice).

For purposes of this policy, "Same Group Physician and/or Other Health Care Professional" includes all physicians and/or other health care professionals of the same group reporting the same Federal Tax Identification number (TIN).

## REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES

Consistent with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Oxford considers the surgical care rendered by the Same Group Physician and/or Other Health Care Professional to include pre-operative management. Accordingly, in Split Surgical Package situations, the pre-operative and surgical care portions of the Surgical Package are combined by Oxford in the reimbursement of surgical codes appended with modifier 54. Preoperative care is not reimbursed separately. Postoperative care management may be reimbursed separately when a physician or other health care professional who is not within the Same Group Practice as the operating physician provides the postoperative care as denoted by submission of the surgical code appended with modifier 55.

Split Surgical Package situations will be reimbursed not to exceed 100% of the total global surgical allowable amount, and are reimbursable at the percentages indicated:

Modifier	Modifier Description	Percentage
54	Surgical Care Only (includes preoperative and surgical care management)	80%
55	Postoperative Management only	20%
56	Preoperative Management only	0%
<b>TOTAL:</b>		100%

## DEFINITIONS

**Same Group Physician and/or Other Health Care Professional, Same Group Practice:** All physicians and/or other health care professionals of the same group reporting the same Federal Tax Identification number.

**Split Surgical Package:** The Surgical Package consists of the preoperative, surgical and postoperative service. A Split Surgical Package occurs when a component of the Surgical Package is rendered by a physician other than the physician performing the surgical service.

**Surgical Package:** A Surgical Package includes the following services in addition to the procedure:

- Visits after the decision for a procedure is made beginning with the day before the procedure for a major procedure and the day of the procedure for all others;
- Services that are normally a usual and necessary part of a procedure;
- Complications following the procedure - All additional medical or surgical service required during the postoperative period because of complications which do not require additional trips to the operating room;
- Postoperative visits - follow-up visits during the postoperative period that are related to recovery;
- Post-procedure pain management;
- Supplies - except for those identified as exclusions; and
- Miscellaneous services - items such as dressing changes; local incisional care; removal of operative pack; removal of cutaneous sutures and staples, lines, wires, tubes, drains, casts, and splints; insertion, irrigation and removal of urinary catheters, routine peripheral intravenous lines, nasogastric and rectal tubes; and changes and removal of tracheostomy tubes.

## REFERENCES

The foregoing Oxford policy has been adapted from an existing UnitedHealthcare national policy that was researched, developed and approved by UnitedHealthcare Payment Policy Oversight Committee. [2017R0106A]

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

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

## POLICY HISTORY/REVISION INFORMATION

Date	Action/Description
07/01/2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Routine review; no content changes</li><li>• Archived previous policy version ADMINISTRATIVE 186.12 T0</li></ul>