

Commercial Reimbursement Policy		
Subject: Modifier 22 – Professional		
Policy Number: C-12003	Policy Section: Coding	
Last Approval Date: 07/07/2023	Effective Date: 08/27/2021	

Disclaimer

These reimbursement policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claims submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement if the service is covered by an Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield (Anthem) member's benefit plan. The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member's benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis, as well as to the member's state of residence.

You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with Current Procedure Terminology (CPT) codes, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes and/or revenue codes. These codes denote the services and/or procedures performed and when billed, must be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our reimbursement policies apply to both participating and non-participating professional providers and facilities.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Anthem may:

- Reject or deny the claim.
- Recover and/or recoup claim payment.

These reimbursement policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal, or Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) contracts and/or requirements. We strive to minimize delays in policy implementation. If there is a delay, we reserve the right to recoup and/or recover claims payment to the effective date, in accordance with the policy. We reserve the right to review and revise these policies when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to the website.



Policy

The Health Plan allows additional reimbursement for procedure codes appended with modifier 22, unless provider, state, or federal contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise.

Procedure codes reported with Modifier 22 and satisfactory documentation will be eligible for 120% reimbursement of the allowance for the procedure code. The use of Modifier 22 should follow correct coding guidelines for claims submission.

Documentation submitted for use of Modifier 22 must:

- Include the typical circumstances vs. the patient's circumstances.
- Compare the typical time to complete the procedure vs. the actual time the procedure took.
- Clearly state the reason why additional time and/or work was required.

If documentation is missing or insufficient, the procedure code is still eligible for reimbursement at 100% of the allowance for the procedure code.

NOTE: Modifier 22 is allowed with surgical procedures identified with a global period of 000, 010, 090, or YYY.

Related Coding

Standard correct coding applies

Exemptions

There are no exemptions to this policy.

Policy History

07/07/2023	Review approved: removed (Increased Procedural Services) from policy title; removed modifiers from Definition section
08/27/2021	Review approved: policy language updated:
	The specific reimbursement rate was added to the policy
	 Sentences and documentation requirement language were streamlined
	 Grammatical and formatting changes were made to the Policy
	History section
07/03/2019	Review approved: administrative changes made to the policy body

C-12003 Commercial Reimbursement Policy Modifier 22 Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of: In Colorado: Rocky Mountain Hospital and Medical Service, Inc. HMO products underwritten by HMO Colorado, Inc. In Connecticut: Anthem Health Plans, Inc. In Georgia: Blue Cross Blue Shield Healthcare Plan of Georgia, Inc. In Indiana: Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc. In Kentucky: Anthem Health Plans of Kentucky, Inc. In Maine: Anthem Health Plans of Maine, Inc. In Missouri (excluding 30 counties in the Kansas City area): RightCHOICE® Managed Care, Inc. (RIT), Healthy Alliance® Life Insurance Company (HALIC), and HMO Missouri, Inc. RIT and certain affiliates administer non-HMO benefits underwritten by HALIC and HMO benefits underwritten by HMO Missouri, Inc. RIT and certain affiliates only provide administrative services for self-funded plans and do not underwrite benefits. In Nevada: Rocky Mountain Hospital and Medical Service, Inc. HMO products underwritten by HMO Colorado, Inc., dba HMO Nevada. In New Hampshire: Anthem Health Plans of New Hampshire, Inc. HMO plans are administered by Anthem Health Plans of New Hampshire, Inc. and underwritten by Matthew Thornton Health Plan, Inc. In Ohio: Community Insurance Company. In Virginia: Anthem Health Plans of Virginia, Inc. trades as Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Virginia, and its service area is all of Virginia except for the City of Fairfax, the Town of Vienna, and the area east of State Route 123. In Wisconsin: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wisconsin (BCBSWI), underwrites or administers PPO and indemnity policies and underwrites the out of network benefits in POS policies offered by Compcare Health Services Insurance Corporation (Compcare) or Wisconsin Collaborative Insurance Corporation (WCIC). Compcare underwrites or administers HMO or POS policies; WCIC underwrites or administers Well Priority HMO or POS policies. Independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Anthem is a registered trademark of Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc.



06/01/2019	Policy language updated; description section removed, added
00/01/2010	definition and related coding sections
02/07/2017	Review approved
02/01/2011	Added a disclaimer that the policy applies to Employer Group
	Retiree Medicare Advantage Programs
02/02/2016	Examples of appropriate and inappropriate uses of Modifier 22
02/02/2010	were added to the policy
	Added language requiring documentation to include the time and
	extra effort required to complete a surgical procedure, time and
	effort spent on removing adhesions during a procedure, and
	specific information for obese patients
07/07/2015	Review approved; no changes
07/01/2014	Review approved:
	Minor grammatical and punctuation updates were made, which did
	not changethe policy positions or criteria
	Language was added to the policy description section
07/02/2013	Review approved:
	Minor punctuation and language changes were
	Policy section updated:
	 Examples of appropriate supporting documentation were
	added
	 More active language was added
07/10/2012	Initial approval and effective

References and Research Materials

This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:

- American Academy of Professional Coders
- CMS
- Optum EncoderPro 2023

Definitions	
Modifier 22	An increased procedural service. When the work required to provide a service is substantially greater than typically required, it may be identified by adding modifier 22 to the usual procedure code. The modifier should not be reported with evaluation and management services.
General Reimbursement Policy Definitions	

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Related Policies and Materials

Modifier Rules

Use of Reimbursement Policy

This policy is subject to federal and state laws, to the extent applicable, as well as the terms, conditions, and limitations of a member's benefits on the date of service. Reimbursement Policy is constantly evolving and we reserve the right to review and update these policies periodically.

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