

This is an update about information in the provider manual. For access to the latest provider manual, go online to <https://providers.amerigroup.com/KS>.

Anesthesia billing

Summary of change: Effective with dates of processing on and after August 1, 2016, medical direction/supervision of qualified individuals performing anesthesia procedures will not be covered.

What this means to you: Anesthesia claims billed with modifiers QK, AD and QY are considered medical direction/supervision modifiers and will be denied as noncovered.

General reminders

Effective with dates of service September 3, 2013, and forward, anesthesia modifiers are required for procedure codes 00100-01999 (excluding procedure codes 01990 and 01996). One of the following modifiers must be reported with anesthesia services in the first modifier field to indicate who performed the service. Anesthesia services billed without one of these modifiers will be denied. The claims billed with the medical direction/supervision modifiers will also be denied.

Anesthesia modifiers

- AA – Anesthesia services performed personally by anesthesiologist
- AD – Medical supervision by a physician: more than four concurrent anesthesia procedures (noncovered effective August 1, 2016)
- QK – Medical direction of two, three or four concurrent anesthesia procedures involving qualified individuals (noncovered effective August 1, 2016)
- QX – Certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) service; with medical direction by a physician
- QY – Medical direction of one CRNA by an anesthesiologist (noncovered since December, 2011)
- QZ – CRNA service; without medical direction by a physician

The following modifiers can be reported in the second position under appropriate circumstances in addition to one of the previous anesthesia modifiers:

- G8 – Monitored anesthesia care (MAC) for deep, complex, complicated or markedly invasive surgical procedure
- G9 – Monitored anesthesia care for patient who has history of severe cardiopulmonary condition
- QS – Monitored anesthesia care service
- 23 – Unusual anesthesia

What if I need assistance?

If you have questions, please contact your local Provider Relations representative or call our Provider Services team at 1-800-454-3730.