

Modifiers for Behavioral Health Claims Post-July 1, 2018

Overview

For dates of service July 1, 2018, and after, ALL claims for behavioral health services must include the National Provider Identifier (NPI) of the rendering practitioner. Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) staff have received a number of questions regarding the use of modifiers on claims for this same time period. This MITS BITS provides detailed guidance on that topic.

U Modifiers – Guidance

Except for dually-licensed practitioners, it is OPTIONAL to include the “U” modifiers on claims for dates of service July 1, 2018, and after. This is true regardless of whether the individuals are enrolled in managed care or in fee for service.

- *The one exception to the OPTIONAL rule is for claims submitted to UnitedHealthcare (UHC). UHC will require the “U” modifiers on claims and the practitioner’s NPI.*

U Modifiers – Website Resource

For more details, please see the “Medicaid Managed Care Plan Resource Guide” posted on our [BH.Medicaid.Ohio.Gov website](http://BH.Medicaid.Ohio.Gov). Information specific to the use of “U” modifiers post-July 1, 2018 can be found in the worksheet tab labeled, “Billing Guide.” Below is a screen shot of item #35 (from the June 20th version) which gives specifics regarding ongoing use of modifiers for dates of service July 1, 2018, and forward:

						
Ohio Medicaid Billing Rules 35. After July 1, will the practitioner “U” modifiers be required on claims (HM, HN, HC, UK)? [Updated 6/13/2018]	Most practitioner “U” modifiers will be optional for providers submitting claims to Aetna except for in the following two situations: 1. Dually licensed practitioners that are billing under their secondary license; 2. Practitioner types with multiple educational levels (e.g., HM, HC, HN) that are billing for specific service codes for which the rates are set based on the rendering provider’s educational level.	Buckeye will not deny the claim as long as the provider is enrolled with ODM and is licensed to provide the service and if the claim was billed correctly per billing rules.	Practitioner “U” modifiers will be optional for providers submitting claims to CareSource, except for dually licensed practitioners that are billing under their secondary licensure.	Practitioner “U” modifiers will be optional for providers submitting claims to Molina, except for dually licensed practitioners that are billing under their secondary licensure.	On July 1, 2018 - Practitioner “U” modifiers will not be required for providers submitting claims to Paramount. The NPI information must be on the claims submitted to Paramount in order to process appropriately.	UHC will require providers submitting claims to include both the NPI and U modifiers

H Modifiers – Guidance

Provider agencies should continue using the “H” modifiers for services rendered by paraprofessionals in order to affirm the correct payment rate for the services. This is true regardless of whether the claims are for services to individuals enrolled in managed care or in fee for service.

Modifiers for Dually-Licensed Practitioners – Website Resource

See the “July 1 IT Specifications” spreadsheet posted on our [BH.Medicaid.Ohio.Gov website](http://BH.Medicaid.Ohio.Gov). See row 9 on the “Sheet 1” tab; it is pasted below for quick reference:

IT Specifications for July 1 - Carve In

Item	FFS	Aetna	Buckeye	CareSource	Molina	Paramount	United
Dually licensed instructions	Follow 1-26-18 MITS Bits	Aetna follows the FFS instructions in accordance with 1-26-18 MITS Bits	New specialties created and benefits updated, the same modifiers will be used as FFS.	Follow 1-26-18 MITS Bits	Follow 1-26-18 MITS Bits	Paramount will follow Behavioral Health Redesign FFS guidelines regarding dually licensed provider billing instructions (1-26-18 MITS BITS).	UHC will follow FFS

- Click [HERE](#) to view the 1-26-18 MITS Bits on multi-licensed practitioners.
- If submitting a claim for a dually-licensed practitioner, the practitioner modifier (U modifier) for the second license must be on the claim. For example:
 - RN is enrolled in Medicaid.
 - RN also holds LSW license.
 - Any claim for the LSW service must include the RN's NPI in the rendering field and the U4 modifier.