



## Provider Alert

### Coding Reminder: How to Report Multiple Surgeons For One Operative Session

To help ensure your claims are processed accurately, please use the following guidelines to help you code claims for procedures where two or more surgeons are required to perform surgery on the same patient during the same operative session:

- UnitedHealthcare Community Plan allows reimbursement for only one assistant surgeon. Please use modifiers 80, 81, 82 or AS for the same surgical procedure.
- When two surgeons work together as primary surgeons performing distinct parts of a procedure, they are considered co-surgeons. Please use modifier 62 to identify them.
- Three or more surgeons working together in an operative session are considered a team. They should be identified with modifier 66.

These modifiers align with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) reporting guidance. To find out more about our reimbursement policies, please visit [UHCCommunityPlan.com](https://www.uhc.com/healthcare-professionals) > For Health Care Professionals (click on the appropriate state) > Reimbursement Policies.

As with all UnitedHealthcare Community Plan policies, other factors affecting reimbursement may supplement, modify or supersede them, including, but are not limited to: federal and/or state regulatory requirements, physician or other care provider contracts, and/or the member's benefit coverage documents.

Unless otherwise noted as follows, these reimbursement policies apply to services reported using the CMS-1500 or its electronic equivalent, or its successor form. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan reimbursement policies do not address all issues related to reimbursement for services rendered to our members, such as the member's benefit plan documents; our medical policies; and the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Physician, Health Care Professional, Facility and Ancillary Provider Administrative Guide. Meeting the terms of a particular reimbursement policy is not a guarantee of payment. Likewise, retirement of a reimbursement policy affects only those system edits associated with the specific policy being retired. Retirement of a reimbursement policy is not a guarantee of payment. Other applicable reimbursement and medical policies and claims edits will continue to apply. In the event of an inconsistency or conflict between the information in this Provider Notification and the posted policy, the provisions of the posted reimbursement policy prevail.

If you have any questions, please contact your Provider Advocate or call Provider Services at 877-842-3210. Thank you.