

Distinct Procedural Service Modifier -59

Summary of Logic Change:

For the attached list of codes, allow reimbursement when reported as a distinct procedural service.

Eligibility:

Codes in the Anesthesia, Surgical, Radiological, and Medicine sections of the CPT book. Certain Laboratory and Clinical Pathology codes are eligible as well.

Rationale:

Under certain circumstances, the physician may need to indicate that a procedure or service was distinct or independent from other services performed on the same day. Modifier -59 is used primarily to override the CPT defined Separate Procedure concept. Modifier -59 identifies situations when it is appropriate to report procedures or services that are not normally reported together. This may represent a different session or patient encounter, different procedure or surgery, different site or organ system, separate incision/excision, separate lesion, or separate injury (or area of injury in extensive injury) not ordinarily encountered or performed on the same day by the same physician. However, when another already established or more descriptive modifier is appropriate, it should be used rather than Modifier -59, unless the use of Modifier -59 best explains the circumstances.

Disclaimer:

Eligibility, benefits, limitations, exclusions, precert/referral/coverage requirements, provider contracts and specific medical policy still apply to these changes in reimbursement rules. This change does not supercede these other product requirements.

Table of eligible codes attached

Procedure Code Modifier -Worksheet Data Elements

Inclusion of a code on any of these lists does not imply reimbursement. Eligibility, Benefits, Limitations, Exclusions, Precert/Referral Requirements, Provider Contracts and Policy still apply.

Data Elements	Value
Modifier Code	59
Modifier Narrative	Distinct procedural service
Applicable Procedure Code(s)	Procedure Codes 00100-01999, 10021-69990, 70010-79999, 80048-89399, 90281-99600
Not Applicable Procedure Code(s)	E/Ms 92002-92014, 99201-99499, G0101, G0175