



Provider Notice: #0045

Date: 10/5/05

Subject: HIPAA Conversion of Local Modifiers—Effective 8/1/05

Effective for dates of service on or after 8/1/05, local modifiers –AF (anesthesia complicated by total body hypothermia above 30 degrees), -AG (emergency anesthesia [moribund patient]), and –TM (services rendered via telemedicine) will be terminated and replaced by HIPAA-compliant national modifiers.

Claims previously billed with local modifiers –AF, AG, and –TM must now be billed as follows:

- Bill national modifier –P4 (a patient with severe systemic disease that is a constant threat to life) in conjunction with ICD-9 diagnosis code 995.89 (other specified adverse effects not otherwise specified; other hypothermia due to anesthesia) instead of local modifier –AF.
- Bill both national modifier –P5 (a moribund patient who is not expected to survive without the operation) combined with national modifier –ET (emergency services) instead of local modifier –AG.
- Bill national modifier –GT (service rendered via interactive audio and telecommunications systems) instead of local modifier –TM.

Reimbursement policies for services billed with the new modifiers will not change.