

CODE COVERAGE

When Modifiers GP, GO, & GN are Required on Therapy Service Codes

Health Tradition requires the use of modifiers GN, GO, or GP on claim lines for Medicare designated “always therapy” code(s). When any code on this list of therapy codes is submitted by a Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, or Speech-Language Pathologist, they always represent therapy services performed by that specific therapist. The appropriate therapy modifier for that specialty should be appended to the line per Medicare billing guidelines. Please note, there are some “always therapy” codes that are discipline specific therapy services and must be billed with the appropriate discipline therapy modifier.

In addition, Medicare “sometimes therapy” codes require a therapy modifier unless performed by a physician or non-physician and are not therapy services. If these codes are performed by a Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, or Speech-Language Pathologist, then the appropriate therapy modifiers (GN, GO, GP) must also be utilized on the claim line with the “sometimes therapy” code. For a 2019 list of Medicare “always therapy” and “sometimes therapy” see <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Billing/TherapyServices/AnnualTherapyUpdate.html> ▲

Use of Unspecified Laterality ICD – 10 Diagnosis

Coding Convention and CMS require that providers must be coding services to the highest level of specificity. Laterality specification with ICD-10 diagnosis is one area that is frequently miscoded. Good medical documentation requires specificity of the encounter to allow continuity of care from one provider to another via the medical record. It is extremely rare that an encounter for a diagnosis involving a lateral aspect of the body cannot be designated as LT, RT, or bilateral in the medical record. Health Tradition generally does not accept unspecified ICD-10 codes involving lateral areas of the body and claims with these unspecified laterality ICD-10 diagnosis are denied. Health Tradition wants to remind providers that ICD-10 unspecified laterality diagnosis use is monitored and edits that do not accept these ICD-10 diagnoses will be regularly updated. If you have a rare situation where an unspecified laterality ICD-10 diagnosis is supported and you received a denial for services, appeal the claim and send in documentation to support the use of an unspecified lateral ICD-10 diagnosis. Please remember that substandard medical documentation is not an acceptable reason for using an unspecified laterality ICD-10 diagnosis. Thank you for your assistance in promoting timely and accurate claims processing. ▲

REMINDER

Therapy Devices

Health Tradition does not cover occupational or physical therapy with an assistive device.

Example: CPT Code 97016 - Vasopneumatic Compressive Therapy device. ▲

MEDICAL MANAGEMENT

Ultrasound Elastography

Effective January 1, 2019, Ultrasound Elastography will require preauthorization. This applies to CPT Codes 76982 and 76983. ▲

CREDENTIALING

Contracted providers must complete the credentialing process and receive approval for network participation prior to rendering services to Health Tradition Health Plan members. Services provided before the successful completion of the credentialing process will be denied and may not be billed to the member. ▲

PROVIDER CHANGES

Network providers are responsible for notifying Health Tradition Health Plan of any updates to their provider organization, business practice, or practitioners. All such changes should be reported to the Provider Network Management department using the Provider Update Form, found on our website at www.healthtradition.com/providers/forms-and-instructions.

Please provide at least 30 days prior notice of any changes including, but not limited to:

- Change in ownership, operations, or incorporation status
- Change in Tax ID number or legal business name
- Acquisition of other medical practice or entity
- Change in accreditation, licensure or eligibility status
- Change in billing or other contact information
- Change in service location
- Practitioner joining or leaving your organization
- Change in practitioner name, credentials, or specialty ▲

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Provider Portal

Maddy is your go to for all of your provider health insurance needs. She's our online health portal that gives you access to information about Health Tradition benefits.

With Maddy you can:

- Access member eligibility, benefits, claims and authorizations

- Submit authorization requests

- Contact customer service

- and more!

Questions

Contact our customer service team at 844.825.9319. ▼

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