



January 2019

### **IMPORTANT MODIFIERS TO KNOW**

Sometimes the same patient is seen on the same day by different doctors. When complex surgeries take place more than one physician may be present. Unless you're careful this can lead to lost revenue. Knowing which modifier to append makes sure that you're paid accurately.

- **Modifier 62:** Two surgeons act independently to perform one procedure (co-surgeons). Each surgeon documents their own portion of the service and each bills the same procedure code using a 62. Each physician is paid 62.5% of the approved rate.
- **Modifier 66:** This is used for three or more surgeons (surgical team).
- **Modifier 80:** Two surgeons when one is an assistant surgeon. The assistant is present for all or a substantial portion of the operation. The assistant physician reports the same procedure code as the primary physician, but appends a modifier 80.
- **Modifier 82:** When the primary surgeon is assisted by a qualified resident at a teaching hospital.

You can see that each surgeon must coordinate their coding and modifiers to get paid appropriately.

### **PURGE OLD ACCOUNTS**

PPR will purge patient accounts for patients who have not been billed for any date of service after December 31, 2015. We can choose to delete only dates of service *or* the entire patient's account. During the upcoming weeks we will ask you which method of purge you prefer before performing this purge at the end of February 2019. You will receive a copy of any purged data.

### **FEE SCHEDULES 2019**

You may have already heard from PPR staff regarding CPT codes you use that have been revised or deleted for the upcoming year. You will also receive notice if we find according to Medicare or Blue Shield of Michigan, that your fees are below the approved fee schedule. Although some of our providers choose to keep their fees below approved payments, we inform our providers so they are aware. Please let us know of any fee changes that you would like to see.

And remember, we're here to help *you*. Don't hesitate to call at any time for any reason.