

TITLE: Use of Modifier 58

POLICY/PURPOSE: To establish a procedure under which the Modifier 58 may be appended to a procedure code.

DEFINITIONS:

Modifier 58 Definition: Staged or Related Procedure or Service by the Same Physician or Other Qualified Health Care Professional During the Postoperative Period

When the Modifier 58 is used appropriately, the postoperative period of the subsequent procedure starts anew. All three (pre-, intra-, and post-operative) pieces of the subsequent procedure are reimbursed. Inappropriate application of Modifier 58 may lead to the subsequent procedure being underpaid or overpaid (depending on the actual modifier supported) and may have a negative impact on related postoperative visits billed.

PROCEDURE:

It may be necessary to indicate that the performance of a procedure or service during the postoperative period was: (a) planned or anticipated (staged); (b) more extensive than the original procedure; or (c) for therapy following a surgical procedure. This circumstance may be reported by adding Modifier 58 to the staged or related procedure.

Modifier 58 is applicable on the subsequent procedure when all of the following have been met:

1. initial procedure has either a 10-day or a 90-day postoperative period;
2. subsequent procedure is performed within the postoperative period of the initial procedure;
3. initial procedure and subsequent procedure were performed by same specialty provider within same group; and
4. subsequent procedure was not planned or anticipated [staged] at the time of the initial procedure, more extensive than the original procedure, or did not represent a therapeutic surgical procedure following a diagnostic surgical procedure

Add-on procedure codes take on the postoperative period of their parent code.

The effective date of this Policy is not intended to provide a period in time when this procedure was not applicable. The effective date only represents the date the Policy and Procedure form was completed.

Modifier 58 Decision Chart

Subsequent procedure performed during the postoperative period of the initial procedure?

Yes



No



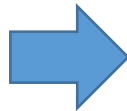
Modifier 58 does not apply.

Subsequent procedure performed by a provider with same specialty and in same group as provider of initial surgery?

Yes



No



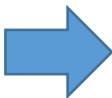
Modifier 58 does not apply.

Subsequent procedure was planned or anticipated [staged] at the time of the initial procedure, more extensive than the initial procedure, or a therapeutic surgical procedure following a diagnostic surgical procedure?

Yes



No



Do not append Modifier 58.

Append Modifier 58.

REFERENCES:

APPROVED BY:
Maryann C. Palmeter