
-52 Reduced Services Modifier

Last Reviewed: 11/3/2021

Under certain circumstances a service or procedure is partially reduced or eliminated at the discretion of the physician or other qualified medical professional.

Product Information

The information outlined below applies to all of the UCare's products.

Payment Information

Unless Medicare or (MHCP) depending on the UCare product has established an allowed amount, UCare will reduce the base allowed amount by fifty percent (50%).

Appropriate Use

- When a service is partially reduced or eliminated at the discretion of the provider, the -52 modifier should be appended.
- The service performed is significantly less than usually required or described within the CPT or HCPCS code description. For example, an audiologic function test is performed only on one ear and the description of the service indicates it should be performed bilaterally.

Inappropriate Use

The -52 Reduced Services modifier should not be:

- Appended to Evaluation and Management services.
- Used to indicate a procedure was not completed, electively cancelled, or terminated.
- Used to indicate that a surgery or procedure was discontinued or cancelled as a result of extenuating circumstances prior to or after administration of anesthesia. For example, a colonoscopy is not fully completed due to inadequate surgical preparation. In this case, the -53 Discontinued Procedure modifier is the modifier that is most appropriate to use.
- Appended to a planned procedure if there is a CPT[®]/HCPCS code that accurately describes the service performed. For example a provider intended to perform a chest x-ray, 2 views and instead performed a single view. CPT code 71010 accurately describes the single frontal view that was performed; that is the code that should be submitted.

Additional Links**Disclaimer**

The disclaimer published on the modifier table applies to the modifier table and all of UCare's published attachments including this document.