



Reimbursement Policy

Subject: DME Modifiers for New, Rented, and Used Equipment

Effective Date:
09/14/20

Committee Approval Obtained:
09/14/20

Section:
Coding

*****The most current version of the reimbursement policies can be found on our provider website. If you are using a printed version of this policy, please verify the information by going to <https://providers.amerigroup.com>. Note: State-specific exemptions may apply. Please refer to the Exemptions section below for specific exemptions based on your state.*****

These policies serve as a guide to assist you in accurate claim submissions and to outline the basis for reimbursement if the service is covered by a member's Amerigroup benefit plan. The determination that a service, procedure, item, etc. is covered under a member's benefit plan is not a determination that you will be reimbursed. Services must meet authorization and medical necessity guidelines appropriate to the procedure and diagnosis as well as to the member's state of residence. You must follow proper billing and submission guidelines. You are required to use industry standard, compliant codes on all claim submissions. Services should be billed with CPT® codes, HCPCS codes and/or revenue codes. The codes denote the services and/or procedures performed. The billed code(s) are required to be fully supported in the medical record and/or office notes. Unless otherwise noted within the policy, our policies apply to both participating and nonparticipating providers and facilities.

If appropriate coding/billing guidelines or current reimbursement policies are not followed, Amerigroup may:

- Reject or deny the claim.
- Recover and/or recoup claim payment.

Amerigroup reimbursement policies are developed based on nationally accepted industry standards and coding principles. These policies may be superseded by mandates in provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements. System logic or setup may prevent the loading of policies into the claims platforms in the same manner as described; however, Amerigroup strives to minimize these variations.

Amerigroup reserves the right to review and revise our policies periodically when necessary. When there is an update, we will publish the most current policy to this site.

Policy

Amerigroup allows reimbursement for new, rented, or used equipment appended with the appropriate modifier unless provider, state, federal or CMS contracts and/or requirements indicate otherwise. The listed modifiers are considered reimbursement

	<p>modifiers and must be billed in the primary or first modifier field to determine appropriate reimbursement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modifier NU: new equipment • Modifier RR: rented equipment • Modifier UE: purchase of used equipment <p>These modifiers are appropriate for durable medical equipment (DME), prosthetics and orthotics. These modifiers are inappropriate for supplies unless required under state or CMS guidelines. Claims for supplies appended with Modifier NU, RR or UE may be denied.</p> <p>Reimbursement will be based on the applicable fee schedule or contracted/negotiated rate for claims submitted for the equipment with the valid modifier identifying new, rented or used equipment. Claims submitted for equipment without the appropriate reimbursement modifier may be denied.</p>
Exemptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following markets do not reimburse durable medical equipment appended with modifier UE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amerigroup Community Care in Georgia ○ Amerigroup Washington, Inc.
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biennial review approved and effective 09/14/20: Georgia exemption added • Biennial review approved 10/26/18: Washington exemption added <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Washington exemption effective 08/01/19 • Review approved and effective 03/14/16 • Initial approval and effective date 08/09/06
References and Research Materials	<p>This policy has been developed through consideration of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMS • State Medicaid • Amerigroup state contracts
Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durable Medical Equipment (DME): Items that meet the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Are primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose rather than convenience or comfort ○ Can withstand repeated use ○ Generally are not useful to a person without an illness or injury ○ Are appropriate for use in the home ○ Are prescribed by a licensed physician/practitioner • Prosthetic device: An artificial structural and functional replacement of a limb/appendage or internal organ, or all or part

	<p>of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning internal body organ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orthotic device: A brace with rigid metal or plastic stays applied to the body for support or immobilization of a body part, to correct or prevent deformity, or to assist or restore function • General Reimbursement Policy Definitions
Related Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modifier Usage • Durable Medical Equipment (Rent to Purchase)
Related Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None