

MVP FASTFAX

News for West Region – Rochester/Buffalo Providers

Modifier 50

MVP recently identified a system configuration error that allowed reimbursement for procedures billed with a modifier 50 and a quantity of two. Retro adjustments are being performed on overpayments as they are identified per MVP Modifier Payment Policy.

Modifier 50

Description	Rule	Reimbursement
<p>Used to report bilateral procedures (CPT codes 10040-69990) performed in the same operative session and radiology procedures performed bilaterally. Bilateral procedures that are performed at the same session should be identified by adding Modifier 50 to the appropriate 5 digit code.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify that a second (bilateral) procedure has been performed by adding Modifier 50 to the procedure code. • Do not report two line items to indicate a bilateral procedure. • Do not use modifier with surgical procedures identified by their terminology as "bilateral" (e.g., 27395, lengthening of hamstring tendon, multiple, bilateral), or as "unilateral or bilateral" (e.g., 52290, cystourethroscopy, with meatotomy, unilateral or bilateral). • Report only one unit of service when Modifier 50 is reported. • Modifier 50 should not be appended to a claim when appending the LT/RT modifiers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 150 percent of the providers contracted rate.

Effective 9/1/2016, MVP will implement an upfront system edit to automatically deny any claim billed with modifier 50 and quantity of 2 as a billing error. Modifier 50 denotes a bilateral procedure which represents this procedure has occurred twice. Billing this modifier with a quantity of 2 is considered incorrect billing.

More information on MVP’s payment policies can be found in MVP’s Provider Resource Manual located at www.mvphealthcare.com/providers. Log in to your provider portal account, click on the provider snapshot in the gray box, and then select *Online Resources*. The Provider Resource Manual is located on the Online Resources page and all Payment Policies are found in Section 15.

Questions? Please contact the Customer Care Center for Provider Services. Representatives are available weekdays from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time at 1-800-999-3920.

