



September 23, 2021

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[REDACTED]

Re: Reimbursement policy update: Modifier 26 – Professional Component for pathologist services in a facility effective November 1, 2021.

Dear [REDACTED]

We routinely review our coverage, reimbursement, and administrative policies for potential updates. In that review, we take into consideration one or more of the following: Evidence-based medicine (EBM), professional society recommendations, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance, industry standards, and our other existing policies.

As a result of a recent review, we will deny separate reimbursement for Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes billed with modifier 26 for the professional component of laboratory testing when the CMS National Physician Fee Schedule does not recognize the existence of a professional component for the code and when the facility where the service is provided is contractually responsible for laboratory management and oversight services.

This update aligns with our current reimbursement policy, Modifier 26 – Professional Component (M26), and the CMS National Physician Fee Schedule.

This update is effective for claims processed on or after November 1, 2021.

Additional information

For more information about our policy updates, visit the Cigna for Health Care Professionals website (CignaforHCP.com) > Resources > Coverage Policies > Policy Updates.

At a glance

- We will deny separate reimbursement for certain Current Procedural Terminology (CPT®) codes billed with modifier 26 for the professional component of laboratory testing when the facility is contractually responsible for laboratory management and oversight services.
- This update is effective for claims processed on or after November 1, 2021.
- Policy updates are available on the Cigna for Health Care Professionals website (CignaforHCP.com) > Resources > Coverage Policies > Policy Updates.
- For additional information, call Cigna Customer Service at **800.88Cigna (882.4462)**.

If you are not a registered user, please register so that you may log in and access all of our coverage, reimbursement, and administrative policies. Go to CignaforHCP.com and click Register. If you do not have Internet access or would like additional information, call Cigna Customer Service at **800.88Cigna (882.4462)**.

Thank you for the care you provide to our customers.

Sincerely,



Julie B. Kessel, MD
Medical Officer for Coverage Policy
Clinical Performance & Quality Organization