

Billing Compliance Alert

SIU SOM Office of Compliance and Ethics

Modifier 57 Fact Sheet

Definition:

Indicates an Evaluation and Management (E/M) service resulted in the initial decision to perform surgery either the day before a major surgery (90 day global) or the day of a major surgery.

When coding Modifier 57, ensure the patient's records clearly indicate when the initial decision to perform the surgery was made. Do not use Modifier 57 with an E/M performed on the same day as a minor surgery. When the decision to perform a minor procedure is done immediately before the service, it is considered a routine preoperative service and not billable in addition to the procedure. You can access global information on the [Medicare Physicians Fee Schedule Data Base \(MPFSDB\)](#).

Appropriate Usage:

- Append where the decision to perform surgery is made the day of or day before a major surgery during an E/M service.
- Append only to the E/M procedure code.

Inappropriate Usage:

- Appending to a surgical procedure code.
- Do not report on the day of surgery for a preplanned or prescheduled surgery.
- Do not report on the day of surgery if the surgical procedure indicates performance in multiple sessions or stages.

Facts:

- Global period - The day before surgery, the day of the surgery and the number of days following the surgery as indicated on the MPFSDB. Often, a major surgery has a 90 day post-operative period and a minor surgery has either a zero or a 10 day post-operative period.
- A preoperative period is the day before the surgery or the day of surgery.
- When an E/M service resulting in the initial decision to perform major surgery is furnished during the post-operative period of another, unrelated procedure, then the E/M service must be billed with both the 24 and 57 modifiers.

Sources:

[NGS Medicare Modifier 57 Job Aid](#)

[NGS Global Surgery Policy Education Topic](#)

[WPS Modifier 57 Fact Sheet](#)

Questions regarding this Billing Compliance Alert can be directed to:

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Revision History	Author	Description of Revision	Approval
<i>May 2, 2016</i>	<i>Candice Long</i>	<i>Initial Release</i>	<i>Candice Long, Chief Compliance Officer</i>
<i>February 9, 2018</i>	<i>Brooke Mullink</i>	<i>Updated</i>	<i>Mary A. Curry, Healthcare Compliance Officer</i>
<i>February 14, 2019</i>	<i>Brooke Mullink</i>	<i>Updates</i>	<i>Mary A. Curry, Healthcare Compliance Officer</i>
<i>February 6, 2020</i>	<i>Courtney Jackson</i>	<i>Updates</i>	<i>Mary A. Curry, Healthcare Compliance Officer</i>