

**Subject: Anesthesia Payment between CRNA and Physician**

**Effective Date: 1/1/2014**

**Revision Date: 11/2017**

## **POLICY**

There is a maximum allowable for both Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) and Physician Anesthesiologists when they bill for the same service.

## **DEFINITIONS**

Modifiers submitted and payment allowance:

- -AA – Physician personally performed
- -QK – Medical Direction of two, three, or four concurrent anesthesia procedures involving qualified individuals. Reimbursement will be at 50% of the allowable amount
- -AD – Medical supervision by a physician: more than four concurrent anesthesia procedures. Reimbursement is based on three base units per procedure
- -QY – Medical direction of one CRNA by an anesthesiologist. Reimbursement will be at 50% of the allowable amount
- -QS – Monitored Anesthesia Care Services
- -QX – CRNA service with medical direction by a physician. Reimbursement will be at 50% of the allowable amount
- -QZ – CRNA service without medical direction by a physician
- -QS – To indicate MAC services

## **APPLICABILITY**

Applies to all OSU Health Plan contract providers

## **POLICY GUIDELINES**

Anesthesia is covered for both medically directed and non-medically directed CRNA services. Anesthesia payment may be split between the CRNA and the supervising Physician in accordance with CMS guidelines and contract terms.

## **PROCEDURE**

The payment split is calculated based on the modifiers billed; 50% of the allowable paid to the billing CRNA with the QX modifier and 50% paid to the supervising MD billing with the QK or QY modifiers. Payment will never exceed 100% of the total charged.

An anesthesia claim must be submitted with an appropriate modifier (see definitions) in order for payment to be calculated. Claims without a modifier will be rejected as incomplete.

## **RESOURCES**

<https://www.cms.gov/Center/Provider-Type/Anesthesiologists-Center.html>

[https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-](https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Medicare-Information-for-APRNs-AAs-PAs-Booklet-ICN-901623.pdf)

[MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Medicare-Information-for-APRNs-AAs-PAs-Booklet-ICN-901623.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Medicare-Information-for-APRNs-AAs-PAs-Booklet-ICN-901623.pdf)