

Applies to:
Commercial Products

- ☐ Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Commercial products
- ☐ Tufts Health Plan Commercial products

Public Plans Products

- ☐ Tufts Health Direct – A Massachusetts Qualified Health Plan (QHP) (a commercial product)
- ☐ Tufts Health Together – MassHealth MCO Plan and Accountable Care Partnership Plans
- ☐ Tufts Health RITogether – A Rhode Island Medicaid Plan
- ☐ Tufts Health One Care – A dual-eligible product

Senior Products

- ☒ Tufts Health Plan Senior Care Options (SCO) (a dual-eligible product)
- ☒ Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO/PPO (Medicare Advantage products)

This document applies to Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO and Tufts Health Plan SCO contracting providers. Modifiers contained in this document may have an impact to claim payment. References to fee schedules are not a guarantee of payment.

Tufts Health Plan follows industry standard coding guidelines and accepts all standard modifiers submitted in accordance with the appropriate CPT/HCPCS procedure code(s). Refer to current industry standard coding guidelines for a complete list of modifiers and their usage as well as content-specific payment policies for more information.

The modifiers in the table below directly impact fees and may also have bearing on which fee is applicable. For a complete list of modifiers, refer to the most current CPT/HCPCS guidelines.

Note: Modifiers indicated with an asterisk require additional documentation and/or operative notes to be submitted with the claim supporting the use of the modifier(s).

Modifier	Description	Notes
22*	Identifies a procedural service that requires substantially more work than the CPT code describes, and when no other procedure code or add-on codes can describe the service's increased complexity	Supporting documentation is reviewed by a medical director for additional compensation May only be reported with procedure codes that have a global period of 0, 10, or 90 days Do not append to E&M codes
26	Professional component	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/professional component allowed amount
33	Diagnostic/treatment service performed as a preventive service (for which patient cost sharing does not apply)	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
50	Bilateral procedure	150% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
51*	Multiple procedure	50% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
52*	Reduced services	50% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
53*	Discontinued procedure	50% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
54	Surgical care only	80% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
55	Postoperative management only	20% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
56	Preoperative management only	10% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
59* ¹	Distinct procedural service	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
62*	Two surgeons	62.5% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
66	Surgical team	62.5% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount

¹ Modifier 50 is the only modifier that will have additional impact to compensation when submitted with modifier 59.

Modifier	Description	Notes
73	Discontinued outpatient procedure prior to Anesthesia administration	62.5% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
74	Discontinued outpatient procedure after Anesthesia administration	100% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
78	Unplanned return to the operating/ procedure room by the same physician or other qualified health care professional following initial procedure for a related procedure during the postoperative period	80% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
80	Assistant surgeon	16% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
81	Minimum assistant surgeon	16% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
82	Assistant surgeon (when qualified resident surgeon not available)	16% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
AH ^{2,3}	Clinical psychologist (PhD, PsyD, EdD)	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
AJ	Clinical social worker (LICSW, LCSW)	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
AM	Physician team member service	85% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
AS	PA services for assistant surgeon	16% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
HP	Doctoral level (PhD, PsyD, EdD)	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
JW	Drug amount discarded/not administered to any patient	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
JZ	Zero drug amount discarded/not administered to any patient	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount <i>Effective for DOS on or after July 1, 2023</i>
KH	DME, initial claim, first-month rental	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
KI	DME, second and third capped rental months	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
KJ	DME, fourth to 13th capped rental months	75% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
KR	Rental item, partial month	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/rental fee
LL	Lease/rental	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/rental fee
MS	6-month maintenance and servicing fee	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/rental fee
RR	Rental equipment	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/Rental fee
QK	Medical direction of 2-4 concurrent anesthesia procedures involving qualified individuals	50% of the Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
QX	CRNA service, with medical direction by a physician	50% of the Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
QY	Medical direction of one CRNA by an anesthesiologist	50% of the Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
SA	NP/PA services rendered in collaboration with a physician (non-surgical)	85% of Tufts Health Plan's applicable physician fee schedule/allowed amount
SL	State-supplied vaccine	0% of Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
SQ	Item ordered by home health	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount <i>Submit in the primary modifier field</i>
TC	Technical component	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/technical component allowed amount
TD	Registered nurse (PCNS, APRN, RNCS)	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
TE	LPN or LVN	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
XE	Separate encounter, a service that is distinct because it occurred during a separate encounter (this modifier should only be used to describe separate encounters on the same date of service.)	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
XP	Separate practitioner, a service that is distinct because it was performed by a different practitioner	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
XS	Separate structure, a service that is distinct because it was performed on a separate organ/structure	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount
XU	Unusual nonoverlapping service, the use of a service that is distinct because it does not overlap usual components of the main service	Tufts Health Plan fee schedule/allowed amount

² Psychological and neuropsychological testing codes are excluded from the modifier logic when billed with modifier AH and/or HP.

³ Tufts Health Plan requires provider organization-affiliated psychiatrists to append appropriate modifiers for services provided by a non-M.D. clinician in their office. The modifiers will affect compensation according to clinician type.

Common modifiers that may affect claims payment and/or processing are included but not limited to those contained in the table below. The absence or presence of a given modifier may result in a claim denial.

Modifier	Description
BO	Orally administered nutrition, not by feeding tube
CR	Catastrophe/disaster
GO	Services delivered under an outpatient occupational therapy plan of care
GP	Services delivered under an outpatient physical therapy plan of care
GN	Services delivered under an outpatient speech therapy plan of care
24	Unrelated E&M service by the same physician during a postoperative period
57	Decision for surgery
58	Staged or related procedure or service by the same physician during the postoperative period
76	Repeat procedure by the same physician
77	Repeat procedure by another physician
79	Unrelated procedure or service by the same physician during the postoperative period
90	Reference (outside) laboratory

Additional Resources

- [Modifier Payment Policy](#)
- [Drugs and Biologicals Payment Policy](#)
- [Durable Medical Equipment Payment Policy](#)
- [Imaging Professional Payment Policy](#)
- [Outpatient BH/SUD Professional Payment Policy](#)

Document History

- December 2023: Annual policy review; no changes
- August 2023: Added modifier JZ to table, effective for DOS on or after July 1, 2023 per CMS
- May 2021: Clarified existing definition for modifier SA to include physician assistants
- March 2021: Added changes to modifier reimbursement process for dates of service on or after March 18, 2021
- June 2020: Clarified compensation rate for modifier 59
- May 2019: Removed information regarding modifier 25
- June 2018: Table created

Background and Disclaimer Information

This policy applies to the products of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Tufts Health Plan and their affiliates, as identified in the check boxes on the first page for services performed by contracted providers.

Payment is based on member benefits and eligibility on the date of service, medical necessity review, where applicable, and the provider's network participation agreement with the Plan. As every claim is unique, this policy is neither a guarantee of payment, nor a final indication of how specific claim(s) will be adjudicated. Claims payment is subject to member eligibility and benefits on the date of service, coordination of benefits, referral/authorization and utilization management requirements (when applicable), adherence to Plan policies and procedures, and claims editing logic. An authorization is not a guarantee of payment.

Point32Health reserves the right to amend a payment policy at its discretion. CPT and HCPCS codes are updated as applicable; please adhere to the most recent CPT and HCPCS coding guidelines.

We reserve the right to conduct audits on any provider and/or facility to ensure accuracy and compliance with the guidelines stated in this payment policy. If such an audit determines that a provider/facility did not comply with this payment policy, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and Tufts Health Plan will expect the provider/facility to refund all payments related to noncompliance.