



# STATE OF IOWA

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PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
CHARLES J. KROGMEIER, DIRECTOR

## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 826

**DATE:** August 4, 2009  
**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Physicians  
**ISSUE BY:** Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise  
**SUBJECT:** QY, QK, and AC Modifier Updates

The purpose of this informational letter is to inform physicians regarding updates made to Iowa Medicaid's processing of the QK, QY, and AC modifiers.

### Effective for dates of service September 1, 2009 and after:

- Modifier QK will be added as a payable modifier by Iowa Medicaid. The QK modifier indicates "Medical direction of 2, 3, or 4 concurrent anesthesia procedures involving qualified individuals". When billed with a valid anesthesia CPT code, the QK modifier will pay 50% of what the physician anesthesiologist would get paid had he/she personally performed the anesthesia service.
- Modifier QY will be changing to pay **50%** of what the physician anesthesiologist would get paid (currently this pays at 40%). Modifier QY indicates "Medical direction of one certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) by an anesthesiologist".
- The IME's claim payment system will be updated to no longer accept the AC modifier.

Please note these changes are prospective in nature and are effective for dates of service on or after September 1, 2009. No retroactive adjustments will be made.

If you have any questions, please contact IME Provider Services, 1-800-338-7909, locally 515-725-1004 (Des Moines) or by e-mail at [imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us)