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**INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2655-MC-FFS-D**

**DATE:** June 10, 2025

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), Rural Health Clinics (RHC) and Indian Health Services (IHS)

**APPLIES TO:** Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS) and Dental (D)

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS),  
Iowa Medicaid

**RE:** Same Day Billing for FQHCs, RHCs and IHS

**EFFECTIVE:** Upon Receipt

\*\*\*This Informational Letter (IL) replaces [IL No. 1719-MC-FFS](#)<sup>1</sup>, issued September 19, 2016, and [IL No. 2474-MC-FFS](#)<sup>2</sup>, issued July 6, 2023. This updated IL clarifies Modifier 59 use for exemptions to Same Day Billing, note page two (2).\*\*\*

[IL No. 1719-MC-FFS](#)<sup>3</sup> stated that encounters with more than one Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), Rural Health Clinics (RHC) or Indian Health Services (IHS) practitioner on the same day, or multiple encounters with the same FQHC, RHC or IHS practitioner on the same day, generally constitute a single FQHC, RHC or IHS visit and is payable as one (1) visit.

- This policy applies regardless of the length or complexity of the visit, the number or type of practitioners seen, whether the second visit is a scheduled or unscheduled appointment, or whether the first visit is related or unrelated to the subsequent visit.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=41275ca9-f294-4377-824a-2adb0ace0593>

<sup>2</sup> <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=03349be0-525b-451d-9144-14b6e1cb1f3e>

<sup>3</sup> <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=41275ca9-f294-4377-824a-2adb0ace0593>

- This would include situations where an FQHC, RHC or IHS member has a medically necessary face-to-face visit with an FQHC, RHC or IHS practitioner, and is then seen by another FQHC, RHC or IHS practitioner, including a specialist, for further evaluation of the same condition on the same day, or is then seen by another FQHC, RHC or IHS practitioner (including a specialist) for evaluation of a different condition on the same day.

As a reminder, T1015 must be billed on the first claim line, and the specific service on subsequent claim lines with \$0.00 charge as “informational only.”

Iowa Medicaid clarifies several exemptions from the above-mentioned single encounter guidelines in the chart below:

<b>Modifier 59 is applicable and should be added:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>On the Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid (CMS) 1500 form: T1015 must be billed on the first claim line. Modifier 59 <b>must be added on the T1015 line</b> in the first modifier field, 24D MODIFIER.</b></li> </ul>	
Two (2) medical visits, same day	<p>A member is seen in the FQHC, RHC or IHS for a medical visit, leaves the FQHC, RHC or IHS, and subsequently suffers an injury or illness that requires additional diagnosis or treatment on the same day. When the member has left the office and returns for an unrelated reason, then the service can be billed as a second encounter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For example, a member is seen by a practitioner in the morning for a medical visit and later in the day has a fall or illness and returns to the FQHC, RHC or IHS for treatment (two (2) billable visits)</li> <li>▪ <b>Add Modifier 59 to the second medical visit.</b></li> </ul>
Two (2) visits, same day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Medical</li> <li>▪ Pharmacy</li> <li>▪ FQHC Pharmacy</li> </ul>	<p>A pharmacy service encounter payment may be provided in addition to a medical service encounter payment on the same date of service. Please refer to <a href="https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=8d51a4bb-e8ed-4fb8-b9ae-6bdc45825e71">IL No. 1908-MC-FFS-D</a><sup>4</sup> and <a href="https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=9ba3b51b-82d5-4830-9d94-3b9056026bf5">IL No. 2545-MC-FFS</a><sup>5</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Add Modifier 59 to the second visit pharmacy or Medical.</b></li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=8d51a4bb-e8ed-4fb8-b9ae-6bdc45825e71>

<sup>5</sup> <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=9ba3b51b-82d5-4830-9d94-3b9056026bf5>

<p>Two (2) visits, same day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Medical</li> <li>▪ Mental health</li> </ul>	<p>A member is seen by an FQHC, RHC or IHS practitioner for a medical visit and a mental health visit on the same day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>This is billed as two (2) separate encounters, two (2) billable visits. Do not add Modifier 59.</b></li> </ul>
<p>Three (3) visits, same day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Medical, IPPE</li> <li>▪ Medical, separate issue</li> <li>▪ Mental health</li> </ul>	<p>The member has his/her initial preventative physical exam (IPPE) and a separate medical and/or mental health visit on the same day (two (2) or three (3) billable visits). <b>Do not add Modifier 59 to the mental health visit but do add Modifier 59 to the second medical visit.</b></p>
<p>Two (2) mental health visits, same day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Psychotherapy</li> <li>▪ Medication management</li> </ul>	<p>A member is seen by a FQHC, RHC, or an IHS practitioner for a mental health visit that necessitates therapy services on the same day that they are seen for medication management. The distinct ancillary services are present on the claim.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This is billed as two (2) separate encounters, even if the diagnoses are the same or substantially the same, because the member is seen for two (2) distinct services, which is reflected by the current procedural terminology (CPT) code(s). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For example, a member may be seen by a clinical social worker for therapy services and then is seen by a clinical psychologist for medication management. <b>These visits are two (2) distinct ancillary service lines, do not add Modifier 59.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**For Dental Services** provided on the same day as a Medical or Mental Health Visit in an FQHC or IHS setting.

This would include situations where an FQHC or IHS member has a medically necessary face-to-face visit with an FQHC or IHS practitioner and is then seen by a FQHC or IHS dental provider, for screening or evaluation of a dental condition on the same day. Due to dental services not being a covered benefit of Medicare these same day services are allowable and billed to the members Dental Plan.

As a reminder, D9999 must be billed to the Dental Plan using the ADA Claim Form on the first line of the claim, and the specific dental service(s) on subsequent claim lines must be included with \$0.00 charge as “informational only.”

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Two (2) visits, same day	<b>A dental service encounter payment may be provided in addition to a medical or mental health service encounter payment on the same date of service when a member is seen for a screening or evaluation of a dental condition.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Medical/Mental Health</li><li>▪ Dental</li></ul>	<b>Do not add Modifier 59.</b>

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Same day dental services can be provided in conjunction with the medical service (ex: a well-child visit, annual adult physical examination, etc.) only when provided by a dental provider who is a dental hygienist or dentist. Supportive documentation is required.

For more information, please refer to [Medicare Benefit Policy Manual – Chapter 13](#)<sup>6</sup>, [Medicare Claims Processing Manual – Chapter 9](#)<sup>7</sup> and [Medicare Claims Processing Manual – Chapter 19](#)<sup>8</sup>.

If you have questions, please contact Iowa Medicaid Provider Services, the appropriate managed care organization (MCO) or dental plan.

**Iowa Medicaid Provider Services:**

- Phone: 1-800-338-7909
- Email: [imeproviderservices@hhs.iowa.gov](mailto:imeproviderservices@hhs.iowa.gov)

**Managed Care Organizations (MCOs):**

**Iowa Total Care:**

- Phone: 1-833-404-1061
- Email: [providerrelations@iowatotalcare.com](mailto:providerrelations@iowatotalcare.com)
- Website: <https://www.iowatotalcare.com/>

**Molina Healthcare of Iowa:**

- Phone: 1-844-236-1464
- Email: [aproviderrelations@molinahealthcare.com](mailto:aproviderrelations@molinahealthcare.com)
- Website: <https://www.molinahealthcare.com/providers/ia/medicaid/home.aspx>
- Provider Portal: <https://www.availity.com/molinahealthcare/>

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/bp102c13.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/clm104c09.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.cms.gov/regulations-and-guidance/guidance/manuals/downloads/clm104c19.pdf>

**Wellpoint Iowa, Inc.:**

- Phone: 1-833-731-2143
- Email: [ProviderSolutionsIA@wellpoint.com](mailto:ProviderSolutionsIA@wellpoint.com)
- Website: <https://www.provider.wellpoint.com/iowa-provider/home>

**Dental Plans:****Delta Dental:**

- Phone: 1-888-472-1205
- Email: [provrelations@deltadentalia.com](mailto:provrelations@deltadentalia.com)
- Website: <https://www.deltadentalia.com/>

**MCNA Dental:**

- Phone: 1-855-856-6262
- Email: [IA PR Dept@mcna.net](mailto:IA_PR_Dept@mcna.net)
- Website: <https://www.mcnaia.net/dentists>