



INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2475-MC-FFS

DATE: June 14, 2023

TO: Assisted Living Facility (ALF) and Residential Care Facility (RCF) Providers

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

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

RE: Discarded Drugs and Biologicals – JW Modifier and JZ Modifier Policy

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2023

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has published [Discarded Drugs and Biologicals – JW Modifier and JZ Modifier Policy Frequently-Asked Questions](#)¹ to provide background information and instructions regarding the discarded drug policy.

Definitions for modifiers:

- JW: drug amount discarded/not administered to any patient
- JZ: zero drug amount discarded/not administered to any patient

Effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2017, providers and suppliers are required to report the JW modifier on all claims that bill for drugs and biologicals with unused and discarded amounts from single-dose containers or single-use packages.

Effective for dates of service on and after July 1, 2023, providers and suppliers are required to report the JZ modifier on all claims that bill for drugs from single-dose containers when there are no discarded amounts.

For more information, please refer to the [Modifier JZ Fact Sheet](#)².

¹ <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/medicare-fee-for-service-payment/hospitaloutpatientpps/downloads/jw-modifier-faqs.pdf>

² <https://www.wpsgha.com/wps/portal/mac/site/claims/guides-and-resources/modifier-jz-fact-sheet>

If you have questions, please contact Iowa Medicaid Provider Services or the appropriate MCO:

Iowa Medicaid Provider Services:

- Telephone: 1-800-338-7909
- Email: imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us

Amerigroup Iowa, Inc.:

- Telephone: 1-800-454-3730
- Email: iowamedicaid@amerigroup.com
- Website: <https://providers.amerigroup.com/ia>

Iowa Total Care:

- Telephone: 1-833-404-1061
- Email: providerrelations@iowatotalcare.com
- Website: <https://www.iowatotalcare.com>

Molina Healthcare of Iowa

- Telephone: 1-844-236-1464
- Email: iaproviderrelations@molinahealthcare.com
- Website: <https://www.molinahealthcare.com/ia>
- Provider portal: provider.molinahealthcare.com