

Compliance Alert

SIU SOM Office of Compliance and Ethics

GC vs. GE Modifier

Modifiers GC and GE are used to identify the involvement of a resident in the care of the patient. These modifiers should be used on Medicare and Medicaid patients whenever a resident is involved in the care provided.

<p align="center"><u>GC Modifier</u> Resident Involved in Care</p>	<p align="center"><u>GE Modifier</u> Resident Involved in Care under the Primary Care Exception*</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching physician must be present with the resident during the key portions of service OR personally performs key portions of service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching physician is not required to be present during key portions of service.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching physician must be personally involved in care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching physician does not need to provide direct patient care.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recorded on each applicable E/M code and procedure code. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only applies to the following codes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New patient: 99201-99203 Established patient: 99211-99213 Welcome to Medicare visit: G0402 Annual Wellness visit: G0438 & G0439
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident need not to have completed more than six months of an approved residency program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident must have completed more than six months of an approved residency program.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not affect reimbursement, but is required for compliance with teaching physician guidelines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not affect reimbursement, but is required for compliance with teaching physician guidelines.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching physician must still follow appropriate documentation guidelines which include indicating their physical presence and active participation by the teaching physician during the key portions of the service that determine the level of service billed (history, examination and medical decision making). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentation must include a statement indicating services were provided under the Primary Care Exception and the extent of the teaching physician's own participation in reviewing and directing the patient's care with the resident.
<p align="center">No teaching physician modifier is necessary if a resident is not included in the care provided.</p>	

What does the GC/GE Modifier Mean?

When a physician (or other appropriate billing provider) places the GC modifier on the claim, he/she is certifying that the teaching physician has complied with the requirements in sections 100.1 through 100.1.6 of Chapter 12 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual.

If you meet the requirements described in the Exception for Evaluation and Management Services Furnished in Certain Primary Care Centers, you must provide an attestation to the CMS Contractor which states that these requirements have been met. Claims must include the GE modifier, “This service has been performed by a resident without the presence of a teaching physician under the primary care exception,” for each service furnished under the primary care center exception.

**Units approved for the Primary Care Exception includes: Family Medicine, General Internal Medicine, General Pediatrics, and General Obstetrics/Gynecology*

Sources:

[Medicare Claims Processing Manual Chapter 12 Section 100.1.8](#)

[M LN 's Guidelines for Teaching Physicians, Interns, and Residents Fact Sheet](#)

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<i>Revision History</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Description of Revision</i>	<i>Approval</i>
<i>December 5, 2014</i>	<i>Brooke Whitlow</i>	<i>Initial Release</i>	<i>Candice Long, Chief Compliance Officer</i>
<i>March 9, 2017</i>	<i>Brooke Whitlow</i>	<i>Updated</i>	<i>Candice Long, Chief Compliance Officer</i>
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