

**WE HAVE MOVED BACK UPSTAIRS!**  
**SAME BUILDING** **FORMER SPACE**  
**MetroCare and HealthChoice moved back upstairs together to suite 202 in part of the space formerly occupied by MetroCare**

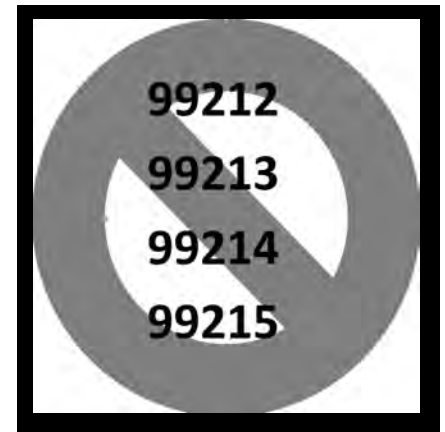
## CIGNA'S MODIFIER 25 POLICY NEWS SHAKES UP THE SUMMER

**Is this new policy announcement for modifier 25 a warning of what is to come for all payers?**

This new policy, now delayed from its initial effective date of August 13, requires encounter note documentation to be sent, by fax, with any claim for a minor procedure billed along with an E/M code of 99212, 99213, 99214, or 99215 using a 25 modifier.

The policy states that the E/M charge will be denied for any claim processed with one of these E/M codes and a same day minor procedure, if it does not have the faxed documentation to support the E/M services as significant and separately identifiable from the necessary elements included in the procedure.

For access to the full Cigna Reimbursement Policy and the procedure code list as well as claims and documentation submission instructions [CLICK HERE](#).



**MetroCare will host a lunchtime and an evening one hour webinar in September on modifier 25 use. These sessions are absolutely appropriate for physicians and other clinicians, along with coders.**

**SEPT 7 12:15** [click here](#)

**SEPT 20 6PM** [click here](#)

### E&M Coding and Documentation

The importance of proper documentation and coding for all types of evaluation and management encounters for physicians has led us to repeat both of our popular E&M programs from this year, as well as add a new one hour program that is comprised by cases submitted from our practices with discussion around coding of each case presented.

**3 Hour Deep Dive JUL 22** [info/register](#) **AUG 5** [info/register](#)

**One Hr Compact Review AUG 10 lunch** [info/register](#)

**An Hour of Cases: Leveling AUG 16 evening** [info/register](#)

### Revisions to Medicare Part B Coverage of Pneumococcal Vaccinations

July 1, 2021, Medicare updated its pneumococcal vaccine recommendations to comply with ACIP. On June 6, 2022, Part B coverage information was revised to include the following detail that had been omitted from the original guidance:

For adults who have received PCV13 but haven't completed their recommended pneumococcal vaccine series with PPSV23, 1 dose of PCV20 may be used if PPSV23 isn't available. [Read details here](#)

## CREDENTIALING:

### TIMELINES and PROCESSES

MetroCare credentialing has become more streamlined for your convenience.

If you missed the brief live presentation by our Credentialing Manager, Kelly Jordan, together with Fran Parker in Provider Relations, you can view the video for detailed information about the credentialing process, payer notification, and provider loading by the payers for pointers on the most efficient ways for you to onboard new providers as well as what to expect along the way.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view our credentials timeline webinar video.

### MIPS 2022 Update Tip

The most important update to the MIPS program for 2022 is the increase of the minimum score required to avoid penalties to 75% (from the 60% in 2021). This is a rather high bar for most practices.

Recommendation: To maximize your scores on quality measures, monitor performance quarterly and adjust to address any issues you may find as the year progresses.

## SVMIC Monthly Lunchtime Webinars

Practice management experts give these excellent monthly presentations from a risk management perspective.

**JUL 28: Disaster Planning 12 NOON** [register here](#)

We often think of disasters as earthquakes or tornadoes. But sometimes a disaster can be a flood from a plumbing issue or a cyber attack. Does your practice have plans in place to prevent or handle a sudden loss of function in a key area? Get resources and learn about how to make a practice plan for emergencies.

### Coding Corner

**Patients whose health status does not look the same in the exam room should not look the same on a claim.**

Two patients may come to see you with the a similar sinus infection. But one patient is obese and diabetic with several co-morbidities while the other is a very fit and healthy sixty five year-old currently on no meds.

The only thing these patients have in common is a sinus infection. Be sure to report (code) all of the patient problems affecting their health and your health decisions at the time of the encounter.

## We Are Here to Assist You

A dedicated team of professionals is committed to assuring MetroCare physicians have the tools and resources to achieve success with the changes required by transition to value-based healthcare.

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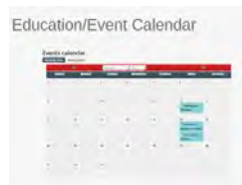
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