

This memo is written to address the use of the above modifiers in an academic setting. These modifiers are to be used when teaching physicians are providing services with residents and when services are provided in a primary care exception clinic. A teaching physician is a MD or DO and the use of these modifiers will never apply to any non-MD provider type.

Previously GD modifier was used when reviewing documentation by the teaching physician and there was no note from the resident and no mention of resident involvement in the physician's care for that day. Modifier GD was **only** an internal modifier created by UPI to help track services provided independent of resident involvement. As of January 01, 2008 Medicare created a HCPCS modifier GD which is defined as "units of service exceeds medically unlikely edit value and represents reasonable and necessary services". Modifier GD should now be used for the Medicare interpretation as stated above and no longer used when teaching physicians see patients without a resident involved in the services.

If documentation is provided by a resident for a particular date of service, then modifier GC should be used with the appropriate CPT code assigned.

Example:

If a resident writes/dictates documentation for a date of service, attach modifier GC to the service. This is regardless of whether the teaching physician refers to the documentation.

If the teaching physician refers to documentation by a resident for a date of service, the service should be billed with a GC attached to the appropriate CPT code.

Examples:

- 1) If the teaching physician mentions in their documentation that a resident was involved in the care, modifiers GC would be used with the appropriate CPT code.
- 2) When a teaching physician references a resident's documentation, the two notes may be combined to support the service.

Modifier GE is used by teaching physicians when working with residents in a GME program that is granted an exception by Medicare to be a primary care clinic. The teaching physician does not have to see the patient but must support the service by following all of the primary care exception clinic rules. When billing for these services the teaching physician's level of service should have modifier GE attached.

The GE modifier is only allowed on levels 1-3 and **for Medicaid, preventive visit codes**. If the visit documented is higher than a level 3 the teaching physician must see the patient and the modifier should be GC. **The GE modifier should not be used for any procedural CPT codes**. Please attach modifiers GC or GE, on all charges if appropriate, regardless of carrier.