



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
CHARLES J. KROGMEIER, DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 846

November 2, 2009

TO: Iowa Medicaid Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners, Ambulance, Audiologists, Behavioral Health, Birthing Centers, Chiropractors, Clinics, Durable Medical Equipment and Supply Dealers, Family Planning, Independent Lab, Lead Investigation Agency, Occupational Therapists, Opticians, Optometrists, Orthopedic Shoe Dealers, Pharmacists, Physical Therapists, Physicians, Podiatrists, Psychologists, Screening Centers, Maternal Health Centers and Rehabilitation Agency Providers, Hospital Providers subject to rebasing, Ambulatory Surgical Center

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise

RE: UC Modifier on Translation and Interpretation Services

EFFECTIVE: October 26, 2009

Informational Releases 811 & 812 issued on June 24, 2009 and Informational Release 818 issued on July 1, 2009 instructed the above providers to use T1013 for a 15 minute face-to face unit. That instruction is unchanged.

The IME hereby rescinds instruction regarding the use of W5023 for telephonic oral interpretive services.

Following is the instruction for billing **telephonic** interpretive services when that service is provided by an outside commercial translation service.

- Bill code T1013.
- Use modifier UC to indicate that the payment should be made at \$1.70 per minute.
- The lack of the UC modifier will indicate that the charge is being made for the 15 minute face-to-face unit.
- Enter the number of minutes actually used for the provision of the service.

Special note: Because the same code is being used but a conditional modifier may be necessary, any claim where the UC modifier is **NOT** used and the units exceed 24 will be paid at 24.

All other conditions outlined in IL 811, 812 and IL 818 continues to be applicable and must be followed. When a Medicare crossover is sent to the IME, Medicare will have denied the interpretive service code. The provider must bill the interpretive services codes to the IME with a paper claim and a copy of the EOMB. The IME will then process payment for the interpretive services code.

The IME appreciates your partnership as we work together to serve the needs of Iowa Medicaid members. If you have any questions, please contact IME Provider Services at 1-800-338-7909, locally at 515-725-1004 or by e-mail at: imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.