

Provider Bulletin

Control Number: PRB 08-08-01
Date: August 22, 2008
Subject: System Enhancement to Bilateral Procedure Billing
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Effective Date: October 1, 2008

The First Choice Health PPO Network (FCHN) would like to notify all contracted providers that effective October 1, 2008, we will be changing the requirements for billing bilateral procedures. Consistent with industry standards, we will begin pricing bilateral procedures using one claim line.

Current Requirement

FCHN currently requires practitioners to bill for bilateral procedures (modifier 50) on two lines. The first line billed without the modifier, prices at 100% of allowable, the second line billed with modifier 50, prices at 50% of the allowable.

New Requirement

Effective October 1, 2008, we will require providers to bill using the industry standard of one line with modifier 50, and price to 150% of the allowable.

FCHN has determined this change will better reflect current industry standard as stated above, and we are hopeful this will be a positive change.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the information contained within this bulletin please call Provider Relations at (800) 231-6935, ext. 2103.