

2017 Moderate Sedation Coding – Updated November 21 2017

Three changes pertaining to professional fee billing of moderate sedation services performed by the same or another physician are significant for 2017:

1. **The American Medical Association (AMA) changed coding guidelines** to permit billing moderate sedation whenever provided with any surgical HCPCS/CPT®. Previously, a list of CPT®s in “Appendix G” of the CPT code book included moderate sedation as an integral component of the code. This approach is discontinued in 2017, which simplifies moderate sedation reporting.

Under the 2017 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, moderate sedation services are separately reimbursed for professional fee billing. The RVU values for moderate sedation services using the new CPT code set 99151-99157 and one new Medicare HCPCS G0500 (discussed below) are:

CPT/ HCPCS	Description	Work RVUs ²	Non- Facility PE RVUs ²	Facility PE RVUs ²	Mal- Practice RVUs ²	Total Non- Facility RVUs ²	Total Facility RVUs ²
99151	Mod sed same phys/qhp <5 yrs	0.50	1.63	0.12	0.05	2.18	0.67
99152	Mod sed same phys/qhp 5/>yrs	0.25	1.18	0.08	0.02	1.45	0.35
99153	Mod sed same phys/qhp ea	0.00	0.30	NA	0.01	0.31	NA
99155	Mod sed oth phys/qhp <5 yrs	1.90	NA	0.56	0.17	NA	2.63
99156	Mod sed oth phys/qhp 5/>yrs	1.65	NA	0.35	0.15	NA	2.15
99157	Mod sed other phys/qhp ea	1.25	NA	0.27	0.11	NA	1.63
G0500	Mod sedat endo service >5yrs	0.10	1.53	0.04	0.02	1.65	0.16

There is no change to reporting moderate sedation services when performed by a CRNA or anesthesiologist.

PARA recommends that hospitals bill facility fee charges for anesthesia services without a HCPCS under revenue code 0370.

2. **For 2017, AMA deleted 99143-99150, and created new CPT®s** for reporting moderate sedation services. The deleted codes are:

99143	Moderate sedation services (other than those services described by codes 00100-01999) provided by the same physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports, requiring the presence of an independent trained observer to assist in the monitoring of the patient’s level of consciousness and physiological status; younger than 5 years of age, first 30 minutes intra-service time
99144	Moderate sedation services (other than those services described by codes 00100-01999) provided by the same physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports, requiring the presence of an independent trained observer to assist in the monitoring of the patient’s level of consciousness and physiological status; age 5 years or older, first 30 minutes intra-service time

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(CPT's deleted in 2017 – continued)

99145	each additional 15 minutes intra-service time (List separately in addition to code for primary service)
99148	Moderate sedation services (other than those services described by codes 00100-01999), provided by a physician or other qualified health care professional other than the health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports; younger than 5 years of age, first 30 minutes intra-service time
99149	Moderate sedation services (other than those services described by codes 00100-01999), provided by a physician or other qualified health care professional other than the health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports; age 5 years or older, first 30 minutes intra-service time
99150	each additional 15 minutes intra-service time (List separately in addition to code for primary service)

The new CPT® Codes in 2017 are similar, in that there are three codes for sedation performed by the same provider that is also performing a procedure, and three codes for a provider other than the one performing the procedure. In the new codes, the initial time increment is 15 minutes (previously it had been 30 minutes). There are two initial 15 minute codes for different patient ages, and one add-on code for each additional 15 minutes of time.

The new CPT® codes are:

99151	Moderate sedation services provided by the same physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports, requiring the presence of an independent trained observer to assist in the monitoring of the patient's level of consciousness and physiological status; initial 15 minutes of intraservice time, patient younger than 5 years of age
99152	Moderate sedation services provided by the same physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports, requiring the presence of an independent trained observer to assist in the monitoring of the patient's level of consciousness and physiological status; initial 15 minutes of intraservice time, patient age 5 years or older
99153	Moderate sedation services provided by the same physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports, requiring the presence of an independent trained observer to assist in the monitoring of the patient's level of consciousness and physiological status; each additional 15 minutes intraservice time (List separately in addition to code for primary service)

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(2017 new CPT's, continued)

99155	Moderate sedation services provided by a physician or other qualified health care professional other than the physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports; initial 15 minutes of intraservice time, patient younger than 5 years of age
99156	Moderate sedation services provided by a physician or other qualified health care professional other than the physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports; initial 15 minutes of intraservice time, patient age 5 years or older
99157	Moderate sedation services provided by a physician or other qualified health care professional other than the physician or other qualified health care professional performing the diagnostic or therapeutic service that the sedation supports; each additional 15 minutes intraservice time (List separately in addition to code for primary service)

3. **CMS HCPCS code G0500** for professional fee billing should be reported when moderate sedation is performed by the same physician performing GI/Endoscopy cases.

The HCPCS for Medicare billing is:

G0500	Moderate sedation services provided by the same physician or other qualified health care-professional performing a gastrointestinal endoscopic service (excluding biliary procedures) that the sedation supports, requiring the presence of an independent trained observer to assist in the monitoring of the patient's level of consciousness and physiological status; initial 15 minutes of intra-service time.
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