



# Department of Medicaid

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Barbara R. Sears, Director

## Medicaid Transmittal Letter (MTL) No. 3336-18-01

DATE: March 7, 2018

TO: Advanced Practice Registered Nurses  
Chief Executive Officers, Managed Care Plans  
Other Interested Parties

FROM: Barbara R. Sears, Medicaid Director

SUBJECT: Clarification of Assistant-at-Surgery Payment Policy in the APRN Rule

Rule 5160-4-04, "Advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) services," sets forth coverage and payment policies for services provided by an APRN, a term that encompasses a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), clinical nurse specialist (CNS), certified nurse-midwife (CNM), and certified nurse practitioner (CNP). The rule is being amended to clarify the existing policy for payment of assistant-at-surgery services. For assistant-at-surgery services provided by a CNS, CNM, or CNP, regardless of setting, Medicaid will pay no more than twenty-five percent of the Medicaid maximum for the covered primary surgical procedure.

The effective date of this change is April 1, 2018.

On claims, the following procedure code modifiers are used:

SA indicates a service performed by a CNP.

SB indicates a service performed by a CNM.

UC indicates a service performed by a CNS.

QX indicates an anesthesia service performed by a CRNA (or anesthesiologist assistant) with the medical direction of an anesthesiologist.

QZ indicates an anesthesia service performed by a CRNA without the medical direction of an anesthesiologist.

AS indicates a service performed by an assistant-at-surgery. No additional modifier (e.g., SA, SB, or UC) is used to indicate an APRN. The individual serving as assistant-at-surgery is identified by NPI as the rendering provider.

### Additional Information

Information about the services and programs of the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) may be accessed through the main ODM web page, <http://www.medicaid.ohio.gov>.

Questions pertaining to this letter should be directed to the Ohio Department of Medicaid:

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