

# Empire BlueCross BlueShield Update: Evaluation & Management with Modifier 25

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**March 25, 2019**

Empire BlueCross BlueShield HealthPlus (Empire) has identified that providers often bill a duplicate evaluation and management (E&M) service on the same day as a procedure, even when the same provider (or a provider with the same specialty within the same group TIN) recently billed a service or procedure which included an E&M service for the same or similar diagnosis. The use of Modifier 25 to support separate payment of this duplicate service is not consistent with correct coding or Empire policy on use of Modifier 25.

Beginning with claims processed on or after April 1, 2019, Empire may deny the E&M service with a Modifier 25 billed on the day of a related procedure when there is a recent service or procedure for the same or similar diagnosis on record.

If you believe a claim should be reprocessed because there are medical records for related visits that demonstrate an unrelated, significant and separately identifiable E&M service, please submit those medical records for consideration.