

University Specialty Clinics®/PH Billing Compliance Teaching Physician Documentation Guidelines

<i>SURGERY OR PROCEDURE</i>		
<i>MEDICARE</i>		
Modifier Requirement	Teaching Physician Requirements	Documentation Requirements
GC Modifier – This service has been performed in part by a resident under the direction of teaching physician.	<u>Procedures Lasting 5 Minutes or Less</u> The Teaching Physician must be present for the entire procedure.	<u>Procedures Lasting 5 Minutes or Less and Endoscopy Procedures</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the procedure is documented or dictated by a resident, the Teaching Physician’s presence for the entire procedure must be specifically recorded. 2. Simply listing the Teaching Physician name on the procedure note is not sufficient. 3. Both the resident and Teaching Physician must sign the procedure note.
	<u>Endoscopy Procedures</u> The Teaching Physician must be present during the entire viewing.	<u>Procedures Longer Than 5 Minutes</u> The Teaching Physician must be present during the critical and key portion(s) of the procedure or surgery and be immediately available.
	<u>Overlapping Surgeries</u> The Teaching Physician must be present during the critical and key portion(s) of each surgery. When not present during the non-critical or non-key portions of the surgery, another qualified surgeon must be immediately available to assist the resident.	<u>Overlapping Surgeries</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Teaching Physician must personally document their presence during the critical and key portion(s) of each surgery. 2. Both the resident and Teaching Physician must sign the procedure note.
<i>ALL PAYERS EXCEPT MEDICARE</i>		
No Modifier is required for resident involvement.	<u>Minor Procedures</u> The Teaching Physician must be present in the teaching setting and immediately available to provide services during the entire procedure.	<u>Minor Procedures</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When documented or dictated by a resident, the Teaching Physician’s presence and availability must be documented in the procedure note or operative report. 2. Simply listing the Teaching physician name on the procedure note is not sufficient. 3. Both the resident and Teaching Physician must sign the procedure note.
	<u>All Other Procedures</u> The Teaching Physician must be physically present for the critical and key portion(s) of the procedure or surgery and immediately available to provide services during the entire procedure.	<u>All Other Procedures</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When documented or dictated by a resident, the Teaching Physician’s presence must be documented in the procedure note or operative report. 2. Simply listing the Teaching Physician name on the procedure note is not sufficient. 3. Both the resident and Teaching Physician must sign the procedure note.
<i>TIME BASED SERVICES</i>		
<i>ALL PAYERS</i>		
	<u>Resident time cannot be used for time-based services:</u> (ex. Critical Care, Psychotherapy, E&M codes in which counseling and/or coordination of care is greater than 50% of the face to face time, Prolonged Services)	Time based services must be chosen based on the documented face to face time of the teaching physician. For critical care services, time spent in separately billable procedures and time spent teaching must be subtracted from the time used to determine billable critical care services.