

In support of correct coding and payment accuracy, we are providing the information below to keep you informed about forthcoming payment policy updates, new policies and coding reminders.

Information is organized by line of business. To view previous editions, refer to *Prospective editing updates* in the [For Providers: Help Center](#) on bcbsm.com.

This month's updates:

## Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup>, BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup>

### Reminder: Drug wastage modifiers JW, JZ required when billing drugs in single-use containers for Medicare Plus Blue, BCN Advantage

In accordance with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid's guidelines, healthcare providers, facilities and suppliers are required to report modifiers JW and JZ on all claims that bill for drugs and biologicals separately payable under Medicare Part B to identify the amounts of administered or discarded drug from single-dose containers or single-use packages. This applies to claims for Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup> and BCN Advantage<sup>SM</sup> members.

#### Understanding JW and JZ modifiers

Modifier	Description
JW	Drug amount discarded/not administered to any patient
JZ	Zero drug amount discarded/not administered to any patient

#### Billing requirements

- Waste-related claims: Submit two claim lines. One line must indicate the amount administered without a modifier, while a separate line should report the discarded amount of the drug using the JW modifier.
- Claims with no waste: When there is no waste, one claim line should be included to report the JZ modifier, confirming that the entire drug dose was used.

**Note:** It's inappropriate to append modifiers JW or JZ to claim lines for drugs or biologicals in multi-use vials.

Claims that aren't reported with the JW or JZ modifiers when applicable may be denied.

For additional guidance, refer to the [Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 17, Section 40](#).\*\*

None of the information included in this article is intended to be legal advice and, as such, it remains the provider's responsibility to ensure that all coding and documentation are done in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

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