



State of New Jersey  
Department of Human Services  
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

# NEWSLETTER

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Volume 19 No. 01

January 2009

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**To:** Dentists and Federally Qualified Health Centers - **For Action**  
Health Maintenance Organizations - **For Information Only**

**Subject:** Elimination of the 76 and EP modifiers

**Effective:** For dates of service on or after January 1, 2009

**Purpose:** To notify providers that the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services will eliminate use of the "76" modifier for increased frequency and the "EP" modifier for oral evaluations for children.

**Background:** To simplify the billing process for our providers and to be more in line with use of the CDT procedure codes, these unique modifiers will no longer be used for billing services in the fee for service Medicaid Program.

**Action:**

1. Use of the **EP** modifier with the base codes for periodic and comprehensive oral evaluation for those under the age of 21 will be eliminated. Claims processing will look at the date of birth to identify age.
2. Use of the **76** modifier to allow more frequent diagnostic evaluation and preventive services with the base codes will be eliminated. Prior authorization will be required when these services are required more frequently for clients with developmental disabilities, neurological impairment or other medical disabilities. Written documentation concerning the specific medical condition or diagnosis, and the dental diagnosis associated with the services being requested can be noted on the prior authorization form under Remarks.

If you have any questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Bureau of Dental Services Monday through Friday at 609-588-7136, to speak with a consultant. Questions regarding claims should be directed to Unisys Provider Services at 1-800-776-6334.

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