pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

COVID-19 Modifier CR and Condition Code DR
Date Issued: April 9, 2020
Updated: August 21, 2023

Overview: On March 6, 2020, Governor Wolf issued an emergency disaster declaration in response to the presence of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) in Pennsylvania. Pursuant to this disaster declaration, the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) in collaboration with the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP) is issuing guidance to advise providers to accept and identify claims that are or may be impacted by specific payer/health plan policies related to the COVID-19 emergency disaster. To identify the submission of the respective encounters, County Contractors and MCOs are to use a procedure code modifier of 'CR' in professional encounters and a condition code 'DR' in institutional encounters.
This will be effective March 1, 2020, in accordance with CMS' approval of the Department's waiver.
The COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) and waiver ended on May 11, 2023. Therefore, the CR modifier and DR condition code are no longer valid for dates of service May 12, 2023, and forward.

Background:
Modifier 'CR' stands for 'catastrophe/disaster related' and can apply for 837 professional related claims/encounters.
Condition code 'DR' stands for 'disaster related' and is required to be used to identify claims/encounters that are or may be impacted by policies related to a national or regional disaster. The DR condition code is used only for institutional billing.

Details:
The following instructions will identify the loops/segments where the Department would expect to see the "CR" modifier or the 'DR' condition code on the encounter submission.

For Professional encounters:

    Modifier (detail)
    Loop 2400
    SV1 01-3 (1st modifier)   SV1*HC:99211:CR
    SV1 01-4 (2nd modifier)   SV1*HC:99211:RL:CR
    SV1 01-5 (3rd modifier)   SV1*HC:99211:RL:TP:CR
    SV1 01-6 (4th modifier)   SV1*HC:99211:RL:TP:LT:CR

For Institutional claims:
    Condition Code (header)
    Loop 2300
    HI01-2   HI*BG:DR
    Allow up to 12 total occurrences
    HI02-2, HI03-2 up to HI12-2.

If you have any questions, please contact PW.OMHSAS.OMHSAS-837.Issues@pa.gov