

Discounted Procedures

EqualityCare will discount payment for certain multiple, bilateral or discontinued procedures as described below for type “T” and non-type “T” procedures. Type “T” procedures are procedure codes assigned a status indicator of “T”.

Discounting for Type “T” Procedures (Significant Procedures Subject to Discounting)

- *Multiple procedures* – EqualityCare will discount payment for certain procedures when a hospital performs two or more type “T” procedures on the same day for the same patient. The “T” procedure with the highest relative weight will not be discounted. The remaining “T” procedures will be multiple procedure discounted. If any of the following modifiers are present on the claim line item, the procedure will not be subject to multiple procedure discounting:
 - 76 – Repeat procedure by same physician
 - 77 – Repeat procedure by another physician
 - 78 – Return to the operating room for a related procedure during the postoperative period
 - 79 – Unrelated procedure or service by the same physician during the postoperative period.
- *Bilateral procedures* – The first type “T” bilateral procedure, indicated by modifier 50 (bilateral procedure) will not be discounted. The remaining “T” bilateral procedures will be bilateral procedure discounted. The discounting factor for bilateral procedures is the same as the discounting factor for multiple type “T” procedures.
- *Discontinued procedures* – EqualityCare will discount type “T” procedures that a hospital discontinues before completion, indicated by modifier 52 (reduced services) or 73 (discontinued outpatient procedure prior to anesthesia administration). The “T” discontinued procedure with the highest relative weight will be discounted 50 percent of the payment rate. The remaining “T” discontinued procedures will be discontinued procedure discounted. Any applicable offset will be applied prior to selecting the type “T” procedure with the highest payment amount. If both offset and terminated procedure discount apply, the offset will be applied first before the terminated procedure discount.

Discounting for Non-Type “T” Procedures

- *Bilateral procedures* – The first non-type “T” bilateral procedure, indicated by modifier 50 (bilateral procedure) will not be discounted. The remaining non-type “T” bilateral procedures will be bilateral procedure discounted. The discounting factor for bilateral procedures is the same as the discounting factor for multiple type “T” procedures.
- *Discontinued procedures* – EqualityCare will discount non-type “T” procedures that a hospital discontinues before completion, indicated by modifier 52 (reduced services) or 73 (discontinued outpatient procedure prior to anesthesia administration).