Date
Prescriber Name
Prescriber Address

Dear Prescriber,

Maryland Physicians Care (MPC) has implemented payment policies that follow guidelines established by industry authorities. Our goal is to process claims consistently and in accordance with best practice standards.

Effective January 1, 2027, MPC will implement new payment policies for wasted medications. The policies align with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines. These policies outline requirements for billing medication codes for the JW and JZ modifiers.

CMS policy indicates that drug wastage modifiers should be present on all applicable claims using one of the following modifiers:

- JW - Drug amount discarded/not administered to any patient.
- JZ - Zero drug amount discarded/not administered to any patient.

JW Modifier
When a drug that is supplied only in single-dose formulations is administered, and there are discarded amounts, there must be two claim lines:

- One line **with** modifier JW for the amount of the drug that was discarded, and
- One line **without** modifier JW for the amount of the drug administered to the patient.

The JW modifier is only applied to the amount of the drug or biological that is discarded.

JZ Modifier
When a drug supplied in a single-dose container is administered, and there is no discarded amount, the JZ modifier should be used to indicate that no medication was discarded.

For example, if a medication is billed with the JW modifier but there is no separate claim line for the amount of the same medication administered on the same date of service, the JW claim line will be denied.

Claims that do not include a modifier may be denied. As a reminder, corrected claims can be submitted within 90 calendar days from the date of the denial.

Questions? Please contact your Provider Relations Representative at 800-953-8854.

Sincerely,

Maryland Physicians Care

The MPC Mission: A COMMITMENT TO ABOVE & BEYOND