

New Reimbursement Rate for Occupational and Physical Therapy Services

Neighborhood News – July 2024

Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (Neighborhood) is informing occupational and physical therapy assistants of a change in the reimbursement rate when using specific modifiers. Effective **July 15, 2024**, services appended with the modifiers “CO” or “CQ” will be reimbursed at 85% of the contracted rate, aligning Neighborhood with industry standards including those followed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). **This change applies to all lines of business.**

The following modifiers are required when a service is rendered in whole, or in part, by an occupational therapy assistant or a physical therapy assistant. The updated reimbursement rate will apply if either modifier is used:

- **CO** - Occupational therapy services furnished in whole or in part by an occupational therapy assistant (OTA)
- **CQ** - Outpatient physical therapy services furnished in whole or in part by a physical therapy assistant (PTA)

Please note this updated reimbursement rate is reflected in Neighborhood’s Physical and Occupational Rehabilitation Services Payment Policy (Claims Submission section) as well as the Modifier Payment Policy. Both policy changes take effect **July 15, 2024**. Providers can also refer to CMS reimbursement guidelines for additional information.

If you have questions about the updated reimbursement rate or any other information contained within this notification, please contact our Provider Services team at 1- 800-963-1001.

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to providing quality care to our members.

Note: This notice was originally distributed on [May 15, 2024](#).