

CMS POSTS “PO MODIFIER” FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

This week, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ("CMS") posted a much-anticipated FAQ related to off-campus provider-based departments and use of the “PO” modifier. Reporting of the modifier was voluntary in CY 2015 but mandatory beginning in CY 2016. CMS clarified that the “PO” modifier is only required for items and services provided in off-campus departments that are paid under OPPS. The modifier is not required for outpatient services provided at a hospital’s remote location, services provided in Type A or Type B emergency departments or services provided by critical access hospitals.

The FAQ can be found found [here](#).

The “PO” modifier is currently used for data collection purposes only and does not impact payment.

For more information on this blog post or the "PO" modifier, please contact Regan E. Tankersley at rtankersley@hallrender.com or your regular Hall Render attorney.