ANESTHESIA PAYMENT GUIDELINES

Only a single payment for anesthetic services will be made for a single operative session. For example, there will be no additional payment made for the services of certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) that may assist or participate with an anesthesiologist in a single operative session.

When anesthetic services are provided primarily by a CRNA, a payment will be made with the use of modifier -NA. The CRNA shall be allowed 65% of the fee schedule allowance.

Payment for anesthesia services is based solely on a dollar conversion unit times the anesthesia value determined for each service rendered. The American Society of Anesthesiologists' Relative Value Guide should be referred to for guidelines and specific anesthesia determination. This guide can be obtained by contacting the American Society of Anesthesiologists at (847) 825-5586.

DOLLAR CONVERSION UNITS

The dollar conversion unit for anesthesia of $63.77 is provided for the total zip code area. This conversion factor applies to CPT-4 codes 00100 - 01999. The appropriate amount will be applied to the anesthesia values as described below.

All anesthesia values are a sum of:

1)   **Basic Value** (which relates to the complexity of the service); and
2)   **Time Units**; and
3)   **Modifying Units** (if any).

Basic Value (and the guidelines for determining Basic Value) for anesthesia can be found in the American Society of Anesthesiologists' Relative Value Guide. In the anesthesia section of the fee schedule rates, the column entitled "BAV" contains the basic values for these codes.

Time Units are added to the Basic Value at a rate of 1.0 unit for each 15 minutes, or fraction thereof, for each hour. Anesthesia time begins when the anesthesiologist begins to prepare the patient for anesthesia care in the operating room or an equivalent area and ends when the anesthesiologist is no longer in personal attendance (e.g. when the patient can be safely placed under customary post-operative supervision).

Modifying Units are added to the Basic Value and the Time Units to reflect unusual circumstances in the patient's physical status and in the type and intensity of services rendered. Refer to the American Society of Anesthesiologists Relative Value Guide for specific modifiers.

Example:

01382 - Anesthesia for arthroscopic procedure of knee joint.

Conversion Unit	=	$ 63.77
Basic Value	=	3
Time Units	=	8
Modifier	=	0
Anesthesia Fee	=	**$701.47** (63.77 x 3)+(63.77 x 8)+(63.77 x 0)= $701.47