



## UEI Coding Alert # 13 January 18, 2006

*Should you append modifier 25 to a Comprehensive Eye Exam (92004 or 92014) when you're also reporting an Extended Ophthalmoscopy (92225)?*

No..... You can report testing services such as 92225 (*Ophthalmoscopy, extended, with retinal drawing with interpretation and report; initial*) along with comprehensive eye exam codes 92004 and 92014 (*Ophthalmological services: medical examination and evaluation ...*) without appending modifier 25 (*Significant, separately identifiable evaluation and management service by the same physician on the same day of the procedure or other service*).

Although a comprehensive eye exam includes a routine ophthalmoscopy, it does not include an extended ophthalmoscopy, so you are free to code for it separately, assuming you have met the ophthalmological criteria.

Use modifier 25 only when you perform an unrelated E/M service along with a minor procedure--one that has 10 or fewer days in the global surgical period as defined by Medicare.

Remember: When it's necessary to append modifier 25, only append it to the eye exam code.