



**Craig E. Samitt, MD, MBA**  
Executive Vice President and  
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Anthem, Inc.  
120 Monument Circle  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

February 23, 2018

Jack Resneck, Jr., MD  
Chair-Elect, Board of Trustees  
American Medical Association  
330 N. Wabash Avenue, Suite 39300  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Dr. Resneck:

I am writing regarding Anthem's reimbursement policy relating to physician use of payment modifier 25, slated to take effect on March 1, 2018, across the company's commercial health insurance businesses. Following several meetings and discussions with you, the American Medical Association (AMA) and other medical and medical specialty societies in recent months regarding the modifier 25 policy, Anthem has decided to not proceed with the policy.

While Anthem is confident that duplication of payment for fixed/indirect practice expenses exists when physicians bill an E/M service appended with modifier 25 along with a minor surgical procedure (0 or 10 day global) performed on the same day, the company believes making a meaningful impact on rising health care costs requires a different dialogue and engagement between payers and providers. As such, Anthem looks forward to pursuing an effective collaboration with the AMA to truly transform health care in our country to make it simpler, higher-quality, affordable and accessible.

In the coming days, we will provide formal notification to Anthem's contracted providers regarding the company's decision on modifier 25. Anthem remains committed to continuing to work with the AMA, state medical associations and national medical specialty societies to address physician concerns with the company's policies and guidelines.

I value the relationship we, and our organizations, have developed in recent months, and I look forward to working together for many years to come as we strive – together – to tackle rising health care costs in a meaningful way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig E. Samitt".

Craig E. Samitt, MD, MBA  
Executive Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer  
Anthem, Inc.