Coverage Update for 3D Screening Mammograms

Anthem Blue Cross (Anthem) is updating its preventive care coverage to include screening digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT or 3D mammography) beginning June 6, 2017, for Individual, Small Group, and Large Group health plans. Following notification of this change to our National employer clients, Anthem National Account plans will make this update beginning August 1, 2017. This means that 3D mammography for screening purposes will be covered at 100%, with no member cost share (copayments, deductibles, or coinsurance).

Please note that because member benefits vary, providers should continue to verify eligibility and benefits for all members prior to rendering services or receiving member copayments, deductibles, or coinsurance. Additionally, cost-sharing requirements may still apply to preventive care services received from out-of-network providers.

The appropriate use of modifier 33 when billing for 3D mammography will reduce claim adjustments and your corresponding refunds to members:

- CPT codes not appended with modifier 33 process under a member’s medical or preventive benefits, based on the diagnosis and CPT codes submitted.
- CPT codes identified as inherently preventive (e.g., screening digital breast tomosynthesis) should not be appended with the modifier 33.
- Please refer to the CPT® 2017 Professional Edition manual for additional information about the appropriate use of modifier 33 for preventive care services.