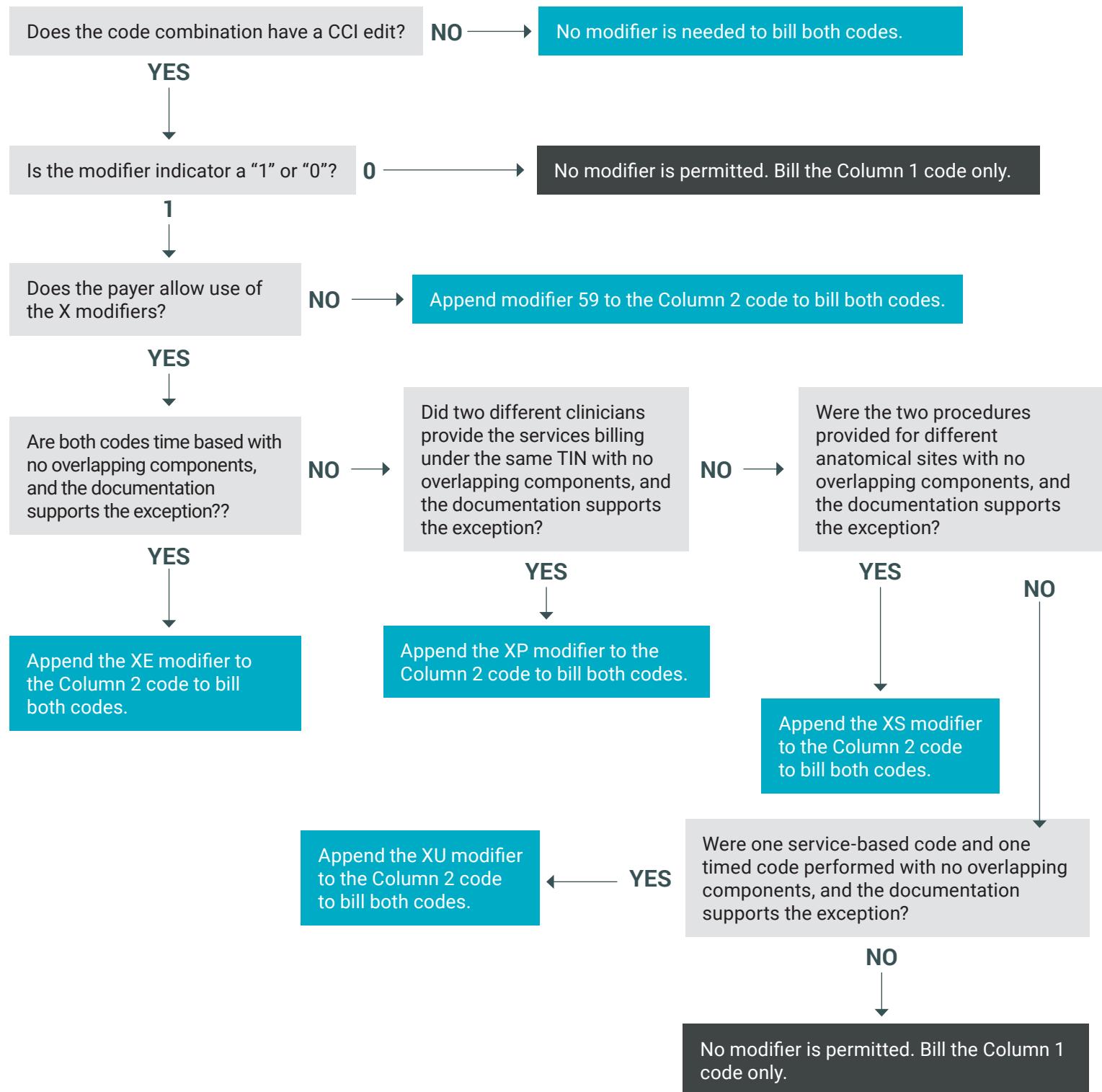


Use of 59 or X Modifiers for Code Pairs

Can you bill a certain pair of codes during the same patient visit? Use this decision tree to help you determine if the code combination can be used and whether it requires an X modifier (XE, XP, XS, XU) or modifier 59. Although Medicare allows the modifier to be appended to either code, we identify Column 2 for simplicity.



Note: Check payer policy to determine if the payer permits the use of the X modifiers. Ensure that your clinical documentation supports the condition for which the specific modifier was selected. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services’ “Modifier 59 Article: Proper Usage Regarding Distinct Procedural Services” offers more information on use of modifier 59.

