



Related Medlearn Matters Article #: MM3631

Date Posted: January 6, 2005

Related Change Request #: 3631

MMA - 2005 Drug Administration Coding Revisions

Key Words

MM3631, CR3631, Drug, G-code, CPT, Hydration, chemotherapy, Intra-Arterial, 303a, MMA

Provider Types Affected

Physicians billing Medicare carriers for drug administration

Key Points

- The effective date of instruction is January 1, 2005.
- MM3631 and related CR 3631 clarifies the 2005 drug administration coding revisions.
- In the final physician fee schedule rule published in the Federal Register on November 15, 2004, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that it would adopt G-codes for 2005 that correspond to the new Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) drug administration codes that will become effective in 2006.
- The new G-codes will apply on an interim basis until 2006.
- CMS is also adopting, in 2005, the CPT coding rules that will not officially appear until the CPT 2006 is published.
- The relevant CPT drug administration codes approved by the CPT Editorial Panel are grouped into three categories:
 - Hydration (i.e., codes G0345 and G0346);
 - Therapeutic or diagnostic injections and intravenous infusions other than hydration (i.e., codes G0347 to G0354 and CPT codes 90783, 90788); and
 - Chemotherapy administration (i.e., codes G0355 to G0363, CPT codes 96405-96406, 96420 to 96520, and 96530 to 96549).
- Under the new codes, chemotherapy administration codes will apply to parenteral administration of nonradionuclide anti-neoplastic drugs and also anti-neoplastic agents provided for the treatment of noncancer diagnoses (e.g. cyclophosphamide for autoimmune conditions), or to substances such as monoclonal antibody agents and other biologic response modifiers.

- At this time, CMS is not developing a national list of approved chemotherapy drugs, and CMS will allow each Medicare carrier to develop such a list.
- The new drug administration G-codes and their descriptors for 2005 are described on pages 3 through 8 of MM 3631.
- The allowances for these codes reflect the application of the 2005 transitional payment adjustment of three percent, which, by law (MMA section 303(a)(4)), is applicable only to drug administration codes.

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/matters/mmarticles/2005/MM3631.pdf>

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm_trans/R1290TN.pdf