



MLN Matters



Information for Medicare Fee-for-Service Health Care Professionals

MLN Matters Number: MM4096

Related Change Request (CR) #: 4096

Related CR Release Date: December 2, 2005

Effective Date: January 3, 2006

Related CR Transmittal #: 769

Implementation Date: January 3, 2006

Surrogate Unique Physician Identification Numbers (UPINs) Reported on Independent Diagnostic Testing Facilities (IDTFs) Claims

Note: This article was revised to contain Web addresses that conform to the new CMS website and to show they are now MLN Matters articles. All other information remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

Independent Diagnostic Testing Facilities (IDTFs) billing Medicare carriers for services

Provider Action Needed



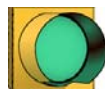
STOP – Impact to You

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 4096, which directs Medicare carriers to reject IDTF claims submitted with Surrogate Unique Physician Identification Number (UPIN) "OTH000," effective for claims with dates of service on or after January 3, 2006.



CAUTION – What You Need to Know

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will no longer accept the Surrogate UPINs (e.g., OTH000, RES000, VAD000, PHS000, and RET000) on claims submitted by a supplier enrolled as an IDTF.



GO – What You Need to Do

See the *Background* section of this article for further details regarding this change.

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

Background

IDTFs have been allowed to bill for diagnostic services with the use of Surrogate UPINs. To help ensure future program integrity, **CMS will no longer accept the Surrogate UPINs on IDTF claims.**

In addition, effective for dates of service of January 3, 2006, and later:

- IDTFs must submit the UPIN assigned to the ordering physician; and
- Carriers shall return as unprocessable all IDTF claims submitted with Surrogate UPINs.

Implementation

The implementation date for CR4096 is January 3, 2006.

Additional Information

For complete details, please see the official instruction issued to your carrier regarding this change. That instruction may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R769CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

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