



News Flash - News Flash - Since May 29, 2007, Medicare Fiscal Intermediaries, as well as Part B CIGNA Idaho and Tennessee, have been validating National Provider Identifiers (NPIs) and Legacy Provider Identifier pairs submitted on claims against the Medicare NPI Crosswalk. Between the period of September 3, 2007 and October 29, 2007, all other Part B carriers and DME MACS will begin to turn on edits to validate the NPI/Legacy pairs submitted on claims. If the pair is not found on the Medicare NPI crosswalk, the claim will reject. Contractors have been instructed to inform providers at a minimum of seven days prior to turning on the edits to validate the NPI/Legacy pairs against the Crosswalk.

MLN Matters Number: MM5703

Related Change Request (CR) #: 5703

Related CR Release Date: August 31, 2007

Effective Date: October 1, 2007

Related CR Transmittal #: R1330CP

Implementation Date: October 1, 2007

Quarterly Update to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, Version 13.3, Effective October 1, 2007

Provider Types Affected

Physicians who submit claims to Medicare carriers and Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)

Background

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 5703 which provides a reminder for physicians to take note of the quarterly updates to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits. The latest package of CCI edits, Version 13.3, effective October 1, 2007, and the current Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) edits will be available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

The National Correct Coding Initiative developed by CMS helps promote national correct coding methodologies and controls improper coding. The coding policies developed are based on coding conventions defined in:

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- The American Medical Association's (AMA's) Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) manual,
- National and local policies and edits,
- Coding guidelines developed by national societies,
- Analysis of standard medical and surgical practice, and
- Review of current coding practice.

The latest package of CCI edits, Version 13.3, includes all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, to the present and will be organized in two tables:

- Column 1/ Column 2 Correct Coding Edits, and
- Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits.

Additional Information

The CCI and MEC file formats will be maintained in the Medicare Claims Processing Manual (Chapter 23, Section 20.9) which can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Manuals/IOM/list.asp#TopOfPage> on the CMS website.

The official instruction, CR 5703, issued to your carrier and A/B MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1330CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

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

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