



**News Flash** - The *Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule Fact Sheet*, which provides general information about the Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule, coverage of clinical laboratory services, and how payment rates are set, is now available in downloadable format from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Medicare Learning Network at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/clinical\\_lab\\_fee\\_schedule\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/clinical_lab_fee_schedule_fact_sheet.pdf) on the CMS website. The *Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule Fact Sheet*, is also available in print format. To place your order, visit <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mlnqeninfo/>, scroll down to "Related Links Inside CMS" and select "MLN Product Ordering Page."

MLN Matters Number: MM6084 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6084

Related CR Release Date: June 6, 2008

Effective Date: July 1, 2008

Related CR Transmittal #: R1531CP

Implementation Date: July 7, 2008

## Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for July 2008

Note: This article was revised on June 27, 2008, to reflect the re-issuance of CR6084 to show that Medicare contractors use the appropriate ICD-9-CM and CPT codes effective dates, which are October 1, 2007 for the ICD-9-CM codes and January 1, 2008, for the CPT codes. All other information remains the same.

### Provider Types Affected

Clinical diagnostic laboratories billing Medicare contractors (carriers, Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs) and/or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (AB MACs)).

### Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6084 which announces the changes that will be included in the July 2008 quarterly release of the edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. The last quarterly release of the edit module was issued in April 2007. CR 6084 incorporates all changes from April

#### Disclaimer

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2007 to the present and has no other changes.

## Background

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The National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) for clinical diagnostic laboratory services were developed by the laboratory negotiated rulemaking committee and published in a final rule on November 23, 2001. Nationally uniform software was developed and incorporated in the shared systems so that laboratory claims subject to one of the 23 NCDs were processed uniformly throughout the nation effective January 1, 2003.

In accordance with the Medicare Claims Processing Manual (Chapter 16, Section 120.2; see <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c16.pdf> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website) the laboratory edit module is updated quarterly as necessary to reflect ministerial coding updates and substantive changes to the NCDs developed through the NCD process. These changes are a result of coding analysis decisions developed under the procedures for maintenance of codes in the negotiated NCDs and biannual updates of the ICD-9-CM codes.

CR 6084 announces changes to the laboratory edit module for changes in laboratory NCD code lists for July 2008 as described below. These changes become effective for services furnished on or after July 1, 2008.

**Note:** Medicare contractors use the appropriate effective dates for the ICD-9-CM and CPT codes, which are October 1, 2007 for the ICD-9-CM codes and January 1, 2008, for the CPT codes.

Contractors are not required to search their files to adjust affected claims between the July 1, 2007, and the July 1, 2008, quarterly clinical lab edit module updates.

**CR 6084 reports the following changes effective July 1, 2008:**

### For HIV Testing:

- Add ICD-9-CM codes 079.83 and 288.66 to the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the HIV Testing (190.14) NCD.
- Modify the descriptor for Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code 86701 in the HIV Testing (190.14) NCD to read "Antibody; HIV-1."
- Modify the descriptor for CPT code 86702 in the HIV Testing (190.14) NCD to read "Antibody; HIV-2."
- Modify the descriptor for CPT code 86703 in the HIV Testing (190.14) NCD to read "Antibody; HIV-1 and HIV-2, single assay."

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**For Blood Counts:**

- Add ICD-9-CM codes 388.45, 389.05, 389.06, 389.13, 389.17, 389.20, 389.21, 389.22, V25.04, V26.41, V26.49, V26.81, V26.89, V49.85 and V72.12 to the list of ICD-9-CM codes that Do Not Support Medical Necessity for the Blood Counts (190.15) NCD.
- Delete ICD-9-CM codes 389.2, V26.4 and V26.8 from the list of ICD-9-CM codes that Do Not Support Medical Necessity for the Blood Counts (190.15) NCD.
- Modify the descriptor for ICD-9-CM code 389.14 to read "Central hearing loss" in the list of ICD-9-CM codes that Do Not Support Medical Necessity for the Blood Counts (190.15) NCD;
- Modify the descriptor for ICD-9-CM code 389.18 to read "Sensorineural hearing loss, bilateral" in the list of ICD-9-CM codes that Do Not Support Medical Necessity for the Blood Counts (190.15) NCD; and
- Modify the descriptor for ICD-9-CM code 389.7 to read "Deaf, non-speaking, not elsewhere classifiable" from the list of ICD-9-CM codes that Do Not Support Medical Necessity for the Blood Counts (190.15) NCD.

**For Prothrombin Time:**

- Add ICD-9-CM codes 415.12, 789.51, 789.59, V12.53, and V12.54 to the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Prothrombin Time (190.17) NCD.
- Delete ICD-9-CM code 789.5 from the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Prothrombin Time (190.17) NCD.

**For Serum Iron Studies:**

- Add ICD-9-CM codes 233.30, 233.31, 233.32, and 233.39 to the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Serum Iron Studies (190.18) NCD.
- Delete ICD-9-CM code 233.3 from the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Serum Iron Studies (190.18) NCD.

**For Glycated Hemoglobin/Glycated Protein:**

- Add ICD-9-CM codes 258.01, 258.02 and 258.03 to the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Glycated Hemoglobin/Glycated Protein (190.21) NCD.
- Delete ICD-9-CM code 258.0 from the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for Glycated Hemoglobin/Glycated Protein (190.21) NCD.

**For Thyroid Testing:**

- Add ICD-9-CM codes 255.41, 255.42, 258.01, 258.02, 258.03, 787.20, 787.21, 787.22, 787.23, 787.24, 787.29, 789.51 and 789.59 to the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Thyroid Testing (190.22) NCD.

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- Delete ICD-9-CM codes 255.4, 258.0, 787.2 and 789.5 from the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Thyroid Testing (190.22) NCD.

**For Gamma Glutamyl Transferase:**

- Add ICD-9-CM codes 359.21, 359.22, 359.23, 359.24 and 359.29 to the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Gamma Glutamyl Transferase (190.32) NCD.
- Delete ICD-9-CM code 359.2 from the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Gamma Glutamyl Transferase (190.32) NCD.

**For Hepatitis Panel/Acute Hepatitis Panel:**

- Delete ICD-9-CM code 999.3 from the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Hepatitis Panel/Acute Hepatitis Panel (190.33) NCD.

**For Fecal Occult Blood Test:**

- Add ICD-9-CM codes 569.43, 787.20, 787.21, 787.22, 787.23, 787.24, 787.29, 789.51 and 789.59 to the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Fecal Occult Blood Test (190.34) NCD.
- Delete ICD-9-CM codes 787.2 and 789.5 from the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare for the Fecal Occult Blood Test (190.34) NCD.
- Modify the descriptor for ICD-9-CM code 005.1 in the Fecal Occult Blood Test (190.34) NCD to read "Botulism food poisoning."
- Modify the descriptor for CPT code 82272 in the Fecal Occult Blood Test (190.34) NCD to read "Blood, occult, by peroxidase activity (e.g., guaiac), qualitative, feces, 1-3 simultaneous determinations, performed for other than colorectal neoplasm screening."

## Additional Information

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The official instruction, CR 6084, issued to your carrier, FI, and A/B MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1531CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier, FI, or A/B MAC 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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