

MLN Matters Number: **MM6290 Revised** Related Change Request (CR) #: **6290**
 Related CR Release Date: **December 31, 2008** Effective Date: **January 1, 2009**
 Related CR Transmittal #: **R1658CP** Implementation Date: **January 5, 2009**

Quarterly Update to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, Version 15.0, Effective January 1, 2009

Note: This article was revised on April 12, 2018, to update Web addresses. All other information remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

Physicians submitting claims to Medicare Carriers and/or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6290, which provides a reminder for physicians to take note of the quarterly updates to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits.

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) developed the National Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) to promote national correct coding methodologies and to control improper coding that leads to inappropriate payment in Part B claims.

The coding policies developed are based on coding conventions defined in 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.

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The latest package of CCI edits, Version 15.0, is effective January 1, 2009, and includes all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, to the present. It will be organized in the following two tables:

- Column 1/ Column 2 Correct Coding Edits, and
- Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits.
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Version 15.0 will be available via the CMS Data Center, and a test file will be available on or about November 2, 2008. The final file will be available on or about November 17, 2008.

Additional Information

The CCI and MEC file formats are defined in the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 23, Section 20.9, which is at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/clm104c23.pdf>. The official instruction (CR 6290) issued to your carrier and A/B MAC, RHHI regarding this change is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R1658CP.pdf>. If you have any questions, please contact your carrier or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html>.

Document History

- January 2, 2009 – Initial article released.
- April 12, 2018 – The article is revised to update Web addresses. All other information remains the same.

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