
Program Memorandum

Carriers

Department of Health and
Human Services (DHHS)
HEALTH CARE FINANCING
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

Transmittal B-00-17

Date: APRIL 2000

This Program Memorandum re-issues Program Memorandum B-99-3, Change Request 1104 dated January 2000. The only change is the discard date; all other material remains the same.

CHANGE REQUEST 1104

**SUBJECT: Emergency Changes to the 2000 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database--
ACTION**

The Division of Practitioner and Ambulatory Care has identified various inconsistencies in the 2000 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database (MPFSDB). HCFA will make a replacement file available by January 14, 2000 for installation by January 31, 2000 for the indicator changes identified below, and the changes identified in Change Request #1092 which was released 12-29-99. HCFA will inform you of the file name and the exact day and time of its availability in a subsequent communication.

For the January 2000 update, carriers are given the authority to manually update their files to incorporate the specified changes. Changes within your control (e.g., carrier controlled file changes) can be made at this time if you do not wish to wait for receipt of the replacement file. During User Group Meetings this week, please inform your HCFA maintenance contact person what your plans are for installing these changes.

Changes that may be made on an emergency basis are as follows:

<u>CPT Code</u>	<u>Revision</u>
62263	Pre Op = .10 Intra Op = .80 Post Op = .10

82251 Change Procedure Status from 'X' back to 'I'.

Note: Although we had originally asked carriers to hardkey a status indicator of 'X' for CPT code 82251 (Change Request 1092), we are now asking carriers to retain the original Procedure Status indicator of 'I'. Although CPT code 82251 should be on the lab fee schedule, it currently is not. Until which time we can place this CPT code on the lab fee schedule, it will temporarily be assigned a Procedure Status indicator of 'I' on the Physician Fee Schedule.

94760-94761 Change Procedure Status to 'T'.

Note: We recognize that CPT codes 94760 and 94761 are not "injections" as reflected in the current definition of "T" status. We will revise the definition of "T" status at a later date.

Carriers should hold claims for these CPT codes. We will be furnishing payment amounts for CPT codes 94760 and 94761 in the January 14, 2000 replacement file.

*The implementation date of the replacement file will be 1-31-2000. However, carriers that have manually updated their files may incorporate the payment information for CPT codes 94760 and 94761 into their files for implementation on either 01-10-2000 or 01-17-2000, depending on when year 2000 production begins.

The *effective date* of this Program Memorandum (PM) is January 1, 2000.

The *implementation dates* of this PM, for changes made manually, are January 10, 2000 or January 17, 2000 depending on when year 2000 production begins. If carriers opt to download and use the replacement file which will be supplied on January 14, 2000, the implementation date is January 31, 2000.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after April 15, 2001.

Contact person for this PM is Rick Ensor at (410) 786-5617.