

Related Change Request (CR) #: 3060 (and 3059)

Medlearn Matters Number: MM3060

Related CR Release Date: January 30, 2004

Related CR Transmittal #: R74CP for CR 3060 and R6BP for 3059

Effective Date: January 1, 2004

Implementation Date: April 5, 2004

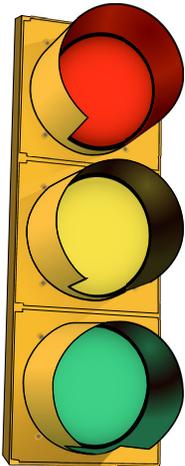
MMA-Intravenous Immune Globulin

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, hospitals, pharmacies, DME suppliers, and home health agencies.

Provider Action Needed

Please inform your staff and change your billing procedures as needed regarding reimbursement for the cost of the drug Intravenous (IV) Immune Globulin when administered in the home.



STOP – Impact to You

This is a new policy. Beginning January 1, 2004, Medicare pays for IV Immune Globulin administered in the beneficiary's home.

CAUTION – What You Need to Know

Only the cost of the drug is paid for, once prescribed. Services and items related to drug administration are not paid for when the drug is administered in the home. The drug must be deemed medically appropriate as a treatment for primary immune deficiency diseases.

GO – What You Need to Do

Please implement this new policy and inform your staff about the new billing procedures.

Background

A new section has been added to the Medicare Claims Processing Manual describing this new policy. The claims processing instructions regarding Intravenous immune globulin can be found in *Chapter 17 – Drugs and Biologicals, Section 80.6*. In addition, the coverage policy regarding IV Immune Globulin can be found in the *Medicare Benefit Policy Manual (pub 100-02), Chapter 15, Section 50.6*. Both of these manuals can be found at:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/cmsindex.asp>.

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This CR implements Section 642 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA). With this change, Medicare carriers, Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs), and DME carriers (DMERCs) will pay state licensed entities, which will receive the reimbursement. Beneficiaries may not be reimbursed for the cost of the drug. Further reimbursement information is provided in the following table:

Licensed Entity	Form of IV Immune Globulin (IVIG) Dispensed	Where To Bill
Pharmacies and Hospitals	IVIG	DMERC
Home Health Agencies	IVIG	RHHI
Physicians	IVIG for refilling implanted pump	Carriers
	IVIG for refilling external pump for home infusion	DMERC

Additional Information

The official instruction issued to your carrier regarding this change may be found at:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm_trans/R74CP.pdf.

To view the CR related to the coverage policy on this Medicare change, which was issued on January 23, 2004, as CR# 3059, please visit http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm_trans/R6BP.pdf.

Should you have further questions, please contact your local carrier or RHHI at their toll free number. A list of these toll free numbers may be found at:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/tollnums>

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