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Effective Date: May 17, 2004
Implementation Date: May 17, 2004

Medlearn Matters Number: MM3188

Update to the Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTCs) Version 4.0

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers who bill carriers and Durable Medical Equipment Carriers (DMERCs).

Provider Action Needed

Affected providers should note that Medicare Contractors (Carriers and DMERCs) must obtain the Health Care Provider Taxonomy Code (HPTC) list, Version 4.0, and use it to validate HPTCs in claims for services on or after May 17, 2004.

Background

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) directed the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to adopt standards for transactions to enable the electronic exchange of health information. Since the Health Care Provider Taxonomy Code is a named code set in the 837 Professional Implementation Guide, contractors must validate the inbound taxonomy codes against their internal HPTC tables.

The summary of changes for the Health Care Provider Taxonomy Code list, Version 4.0, is as follows:

Provider Taxonomy Value	Revision
208VP0000X	Modified title from <i>Pain Management</i> to <i>Pain Medicine</i> and added definition
106H00000X	Modified definition
207VM0101X	Added definition

Implementation

The implementation date for this instruction is May 17, 2004, when Version 4.0 of this code set will be used by carriers and DMERCs for claims with dates of service on or after May 17, 2004.

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Additional Information

The official instruction issued to your carrier/DMERC regarding this change may be found by going to:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/transmittals/comm_date_dsc.asp

From that web page, look for CR3188 in the CR NUM column on the right, and click on the file for that CR. If you have any questions, please contact your carrier/DMERC at their toll-free number, which may be found at:

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

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