



News Flash – The Office of the Inspector General in the Department of Health and Human Services has issued a policy statement that assures Medicare providers, practitioners, and suppliers affected by retroactive increases in payment rates under the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008 that they will not be subject to OIG administrative sanctions if they waive retroactive beneficiary cost-sharing amounts attributable to those increased payment rates, subject to the conditions noted in the policy statement. To view the document, go to http://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/docs/alertsandbulletins/2008/MIPPA_Policy_Statement.PDF on the Internet.

MLN Matters Number: MM6107

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6107

Related CR Release Date: July 29, 2008

Effective Date: October 1, 2008

Related CR Transmittal #: R1566CP

Implementation Date: October 6, 2008

Medicare Contractor Annual Update of the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM)

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers billing Medicare contractors (carriers, Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs), Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DMACs), and fiscal intermediaries (FIs) including regional home health intermediaries (RHHIs)).

Impact on Providers

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6107 and reminds the Medicare contractors and providers that the annual ICD-9-CM update will be effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2008 (for institutional providers, effective for discharges on or after October 1, 2008). You can see the new, revised, and discontinued ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD9ProviderDiagnosticCodes/07_summarytables.asp#TopOfPage,

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or at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) website at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd9.htm> in June of each year.

Background

The ICD-9-CM codes are updated annually as stated in the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 23 (Fee Schedule Administration and Coding Requirements), Section 10.2 (Relationship of ICD-9-CM Codes and Date of Service).

CMS issued CR 6107 as a reminder that the annual ICD-9-CM coding update will be effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2008 (for institutional providers, effective for discharges on or after October 1, 2008).

Remember that an ICD-9-CM code is required for all professional claims (including those from physicians, non-physician practitioners, independent clinical diagnostic laboratories, occupational and physical therapists, independent diagnostic testing facilities, audiologist, ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs)), and for all institutional claims; but is not required for ambulance supplier claims.

Additional Information

The official instruction (CR 6107) issued to your Medicare contractor is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1566CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

As mentioned, you can find the new, revised, and discontinued ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD9ProviderDiagnosticCodes/07_summarytables.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS website or at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd9.htm>, in June of each year. The annual ICD-9-CM code changes are also included in a CD-ROM, which you can purchase for \$25.00 from the Government Printing Office (GPO), stock number 017-022-01573-1.

To learn more about ICD-9-CM codes, you might want to read *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 23 (Fee Schedule Administration and Coding Requirements), Section 10.2 (Relationship of ICD-9-CM Codes and Date of Service); or look at the information provided at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ICD9ProviderDiagnosticCodes/01_overview.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS website.

If you have questions, please contact your Medicare contractor 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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