



PQRI Information Available

A new CMS webpage dedicated to providing information on the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) is now available.

On December 20, 2006, the President signed the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (TRHCA). Section 101 under Title I authorizes the establishment of a physician quality reporting system by CMS. CMS has titled the statutory program the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative. For more information, visit <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/pqri> on the CMS website.

MLN Matters Number: MM5391

Related Change Request (CR) #: 5391

Related CR Release Date: February 23, 2007

Effective Date: May 23, 2007

Related CR Transmittal #: R1187CP

Implementation Date: May 23, 2007

Revisions to Incomplete or Invalid Claims Instructions Necessary to Implement the Revised Health Insurance Claim Form CMS-1500 (Version 8/05)

This article was revised on May 8, 2007, to add this statement that Medicare FFS has announced a contingency plan regarding the May 23, 2007 implementation of the NPI. For some period after May 23, 2007, Medicare FFS will allow continued use of legacy numbers on transactions; accept transactions with only NPIs; and accept transactions with both legacy numbers and NPIs. For details of this contingency plan, see the *MLN Matters* article, MM5595, at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5595.pdf> on the CMS website.

Provider Types Affected

Physicians and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers, Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERCs), DME Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs), and Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2007 American Medical Association.

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 5391 which revises the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual* (Publication 100-04; Chapter 1, Section 80.3.2) relating to the handling of incomplete and invalid claims to reflect the changes in reporting items for the National Provider Identifier (NPI) on the revised Form CMS-1500 version 08/05 and updates the references to remark codes in the instructions and revises the instructions to indicate what is consistent with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) guidelines. Affected providers should assure their billing staff are aware of NPI reporting requirements. These changes apply to claims received on or after May 23, 2007.

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Form 1500 (CMS-1500; Health Insurance Claim Form) has been revised to accommodate the reporting of the National Provider Identifier (NPI). The revised form is designated as Form CMS-1500 (8/05). The revisions to CMS-1500 include additional items for the reporting of the NPI. The manual revisions also include items that have already been implemented through the Competitive Acquisition of Part B Drugs and Biologicals (CAP) through the following Change Requests (CRs):

- CR4064 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/Downloads/R777CP.pdf>, and MLN Matters article MM4064 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4064.pdf>
- CR4306 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/transmittals/downloads/R841CP.pdf>
- CR4309 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/transmittals/downloads/R866CP.pdf>, and MLN Matters article MM4309 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4309.pdf>
- CR5079 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/transmittals/downloads/R1055CP.pdf> and
- CR5259 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/transmittals/downloads/R1034CP.pdf>

As a result of the revisions included in the Form CMS-1500 (8/05), the incomplete and invalid claims instructions are being updated to reflect the appropriate items in which the NPI will be reported.

CR 5391 instructs Medicare contractors (carriers, DMERCs, DME MACs, and A/B MACs):

- To make all necessary changes to their internal business processes to enable the return of claims as unprocessable that do not report an NPI when required in a provider name segment or another provider identification segment in an electronic or a CMS-1500 (08/05) paper claim. See the Medicare Claims

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Processing Manual (Pub. 100-04), Chapter One (Sections 80.3.2.1.1 through 80.3.2.1.3) included as an attachment to CR5391, and the Health Care Claim Professional 837 Implementation Guide (<http://www.wpc-edi.com>) for further information.

- To use the appropriate remittance advice remark codes provided in the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter One, (Pub. 100-04), Chapter One, Sections 80.3.2.1.1 through 80.3.2.1.3, when returning claims as unprocessable.
- To not search their internal files:
- To correct a missing or inaccurate NPI on a Form CMS-1500(8/05) or on an electronic claim.
- To correct missing or inaccurate information required for HIPAA compliance for claims governed by HIPAA.

Additional Information

For complete details, please see the official instruction issued to your Medicare contractor (carrier, DMERC, A/B MAC, or DME MAC) regarding this change. That instruction may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1187CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any 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.

Flu Shot Reminder

It's Not Too Late to Give and Get the Flu Shot!

The peak of flu season typically occurs between late December and March; however, flu season can last until May. Protect yourself, your patients, and your family and friends by getting and giving the flu shot. Each office visit presents an opportunity for you to talk with your patients about the importance of getting an annual flu shot and a lifetime pneumococcal vaccination. Remember - influenza and pneumococcal vaccination and their administration are covered Part B benefits. Note that influenza and pneumococcal vaccines are NOT Part D covered drugs. For more information about Medicare's coverage of adult immunizations and educational resources, go to CMS' website:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0667.pdf>

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