



Do you have your NPI? National Provider Identifiers (NPIs) will be required on claims sent on or after May 23, 2007. Every health care provider needs to get an NPI. Learn more about the NPI and how to apply for an NPI by visiting <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProviderStand/> on the CMS web site.

MLN Matters Number: MM5492

Related Change Request (CR) #: 5492

Related CR Release Date: March 9, 2007

Effective Date: April 1, 2007

Related CR Transmittal #: R1201CP

Implementation Date: April 2, 2007

Quarterly Update to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, Version 13.1, Effective April 1, 2007

Provider Types Affected

Physicians who submit claims to Medicare Carriers and A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)

What You Need to Know

CR 5492, from which this article is taken, gives your carriers and A/B MACs the latest package of Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits. These edits (Version 13.1), which include all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, will be effective on April 1, 2007.

Background

This article and related Change Request (CR) 5492 provide a reminder for physicians to take note of the latest quarterly Correct Coding Initiative updates. This package of CCI edits, Version 13.1, effective April 1, 2007, will be available via the CMS Data Center (CDC) at the website shown below.

The CMS National Correct Coding Initiative helps promote national correct coding methodologies and helps control improper coding. The policies are based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) manual, national and local policies and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practice, and review of current coding practice.

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present; and will be organized in two tables: 1) Column 1/Column 2 Correct Coding Edits table; and 2) Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits table.

Additional Information

You can find the official instruction, CR5492, issued to your carrier or A/B MAC by visiting <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1201CP.pdf> on the CMS website. The CCI and MEC file formats will be maintained in the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual* (Publication 100-04), Chapter 23, Section 20.9, which can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Manuals/IOM/list.asp#TopOfPage> on the CMS website. You can see the current CCI and Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) edits at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip>

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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