



News Flash – The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has posted on its website 11 new frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the ICD-10 Implementation. To access these FAQs, please visit the CMS ICD-10 webpage at <http://www.cms.gov/ICD10/>, select the Medicare Fee-for-Service Provider Resources link on the left side of the page, scroll down the page to the “Related Links Inside CMS” section and select “ICD-10 FAQs”. Please check the ICD-10 FAQ section regularly for newly posted or updated ICD-10 FAQs.

MLN Matters® Number: MM6953

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6953

Related CR Release Date: November 24, 2010

Effective Date: March 23, 2010

Related CR Transmittal #: R122NCD and R2105CP

Implementation Date: July 6, 2010

Dermal Injections for Treatment of Facial Lipodystrophy Syndrome (LDS)

Note: This article was revised on November 26, 2010, to reflect a revised CR 6953, which was issued on November 24, 2010. CR 6953 was revised to clarify billing procedures for services performed in the outpatient hospital setting and to update the Claims Adjustment Reason Code for line item denials for relevant services performed prior to March 23, 2010. This article was revised to reflect this clarification and update.

Provider Types Affected

This article is for physicians, hospitals, and other providers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers, Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), and/or A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)) for Facial Lipodystrophy services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

What You Need to Know

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6953 which informs Medicare contractors that, effective for claims with dates of service on and after March 23, 2010, dermal injections for facial lipodystrophy syndrome (LDS) are only reasonable and necessary using dermal fillers approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for this purpose, and then only in human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-infected Medicare beneficiaries who manifest depression secondary to the physical stigma of HIV treatment.

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Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) received a request for national coverage of treatments for facial lipodystrophy syndrome (LDS) for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-infected Medicare beneficiaries. LDS is often characterized by a loss of fat that results in a facial abnormality such as severely sunken cheeks. This fat loss can arise as a complication of HIV and/or highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART). Due to their appearance, patients with LDS may become depressed, socially isolated, and in some cases may stop their HIV treatments in an attempt to halt or reverse this complication.

Nationally Covered Indications

Effective for claims with dates of service on and after March 23, 2010, dermal injections for LDS are only reasonable and necessary using dermal fillers approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for this purpose, and then only in HIV-infected beneficiaries who manifest depression secondary to the physical stigma of HIV treatment.

Nationally Non-Covered Indications

- Dermal fillers that are not approved by the FDA for the treatment of LDS, and
- Dermal fillers that are used for any indication other than LDS in HIV-infected individuals who manifest depression as a result of their antiretroviral HIV treatments.

Claims Coding/Pricing Information

Effective with the July 2010 Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) update, the July Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS), and the July Integrated Outpatient Code Editor (IOCE):

- HCPCS codes Q2026, Q2027, and G0429 will be designated for dermal fillers Sculptra® and Radiesse®;
- HCPCS codes Q2026, Q2027, and G0429 are effective for dates of service on or after March 23, 2010;
- HCPCS codes Q2026 and Q2027 are contractor-priced under the July MPFS; and
- HCPCS code G0429 is payable under the July MPFS.

However, because HCPCS Q2026, Q2027 and G0429 are not considered valid HCPCS until implementation of the July 2010 HCPCS update, providers will not be able to bill and receive payment for these HCPCS codes prior to July 6, 2010.

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Therefore, included in the July 2010 HCPCS update and in the July IOCE is a temporary HCPCS code C9800, which was created to describe both the injection procedure and the dermal filler product. This code provides a payment mechanism to hospital outpatient prospective payment system (OPPS) and ambulatory surgery center (ASC) providers until Average Sales Price (ASP) or Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC) pricing information becomes available. When ASP or WAC pricing information becomes available, the temporary HCPCS code will be deleted and separate payment will be made under the OPPS and ASC payment systems for HCPCS Q2026, Q2027, and G0429.

For institutional non-OPPS claims, Medicare contractors will use current payment methodologies for claims for dermal injections for treatment of LDS.

Hospital and ASC Billing Instructions

For ASC claims, providers must bill covered dermal injections for treatment of LDS by having all the required elements on the claim:

- A line with HCPCS codes Q2026 or Q2027 with a Line Item Date of service (LIDOS) on or after March 23, 2010;
- A line with HCPCS code G0429 with a LIDOS on or after March 23, 2010; and
- ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes 042 (HIV) and 272.6 (Lipodystrophy).

Medicare will line item deny institutional claims where the LIDOS is prior to March 23, 2010.

Note to ASCs: For line item dates of service on or after March 23, 2010, and until pricing information is made available to price OPPS claims, LDS claims shall contain the temporary HCPCS code C9800, instead of HCPCS G0429 and HCPCS Q2026/Q2027, as shown above.

For outpatient facilities, hospitals should bill:

- HCPCS code G0429 with a date of service on or after March 23, 2010; and
- ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes 042 (HIV) and 272.6 (Liposystophy).

Note on all hospital claims: An ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for a depression comorbidity may also be required for coverage on an outpatient and/or inpatient basis as determined by the individual Medicare contractor's policy.

Practitioner Billing Instructions

Practitioners must bill covered claims for dermal injections for treatment of LDS by having all the required elements on the claim:

- A date of service (LIDOS) on or after March 23, 2010;

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- HCPCS codes Q2026 or Q2027;
- A line with HCPCS code G0429; and
- ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes 042 (HIV) and 272.6 (Lipodystrophy).

NOTE: An ICD-9-CM diagnosis code for a depression comorbidity may also be required for coverage based on the individual Medicare contractor's policy.

Billing for Services Prior to Medicare Coverage

ASCs and practitioners billing for dermal injections for treatment of LDS prior to the coverage date of March 23, 2010, will receive the following messages upon their Medicare denial:

- Claim Adjustment Reason Code (CARC) 26: Expenses incurred prior to coverage.
- Remittance Advice Remark Code (RARC) N386: This decision was based on a National Coverage Determination (NCD). An NCD provides a coverage determination as to whether a particular item or service is covered. A copy of this policy is available at <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/overview-and-quick-search.aspx> on the CMS website. If you do not have web access, you may contact your local contractor to request a copy of the NCD.
- Group Code: Contractual Obligation (CO)

Medicare beneficiaries whose provider bills Medicare for dermal injections for treatment of LDS prior to the coverage date of March 23, 2010, will receive the following Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) message upon the Medicare denial:

- 21.11 - This service was not covered by Medicare at the time you received it.

Billing for Services Not Meeting Comorbidity Coverage Requirements

Hospitals and practitioners billing for dermal injections for treatment of LDS on patients that do not have on the claim both ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes of 042 and 272.6, indicating HIV and lipodystrophy will receive the following messages upon their Medicare claims denial:

- CARC 50: These are non-covered services because this is not deemed a 'medical necessity' by the payer. Note: Refer to the 835 Healthcare Policy Identification Segment (loop 2110 Service Payment Information REF), if present.
- RARC M386: This decision was based on a National Coverage Determination (NCD). An NCD provides a coverage determination as to whether a particular item or service is covered. A copy of this policy is available at <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/overview-and-quick-search.aspx> on

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the CMS website. If you do not have web access, you may contact your local contractor to request a copy of the NCD.

- Group Code: Contractual Obligation (CO)

Medicare beneficiaries who do not meet Medicare comorbidity requirements of HIV and lipodystrophy (or even depression if deemed required by the Medicare contractor) and whose provider bills Medicare for dermal injections for treatment of LDS will receive the following MSN message upon the Medicare denial:

- *15.4 - The information provided does not support the need for this service or item.*

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 6953, issued to your carrier, FI, and A/B MAC regarding this change via two transmittals. The first transmittal revised the Medicare NCD Manual and it may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R122NCD.pdf> on the CMS website. The second transmittal revises the Medicare Claims Processing Manual and it is at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R2105CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier, FI, or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

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