



News Flash – The Centers for Medicare & Medicare Services (CMS) has launched the official website for the Medicare & Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. This website provides the most up-to-date, detailed information about the EHR incentive programs. The Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs will provide incentive payments to eligible professionals and hospitals as they adopt, implement, upgrade, or demonstrate meaningful use of certified EHR technology. Bookmark this site and visit <http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/> often to learn about who is eligible for the programs, how to register, meaningful use, upcoming EHR training and events, and much more!

MLN Matters® Number: MM7007

Related Change Request (CR) #: 7007

Related CR Release Date: June 18, 2010

Effective Date: October 1, 2010

Related CR Transmittal #: R1990CP

Implementation Date: October 4, 2010

October 2010 Quarterly Average Sales Price (ASP) Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Files and Revisions to Prior Quarterly Pricing Files

Provider Types Affected

This article is for all physicians, providers and suppliers who submit claims to Medicare contractors (Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs) or Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs)) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 7007 and instructs Medicare contractors to download and implement the October 2010 ASP drug pricing file for Medicare Part B drugs; and, if released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), also the revised, July 2010, April 2010, January 2010 and October 2009 files. Medicare will use these files to determine the payment limit for claims for separately payable Medicare Part B drugs processed or reprocessed on or after October 4, 2010, with dates of service October 1, 2009, through December 31, 2010. See the Background and Additional Information Sections of this article for further details regarding these changes.

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.

Background

Section 303(c) of the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 revised the payment methodology for Part B covered drugs and biologicals that are not paid on a cost or prospective payment basis. Beginning January 1, 2005, the vast majority of drugs and biologicals not paid on a cost or prospective payment basis are paid based on the ASP methodology, and pricing for compounded drugs has been performed by the local contractor.

The following table shows how the quarterly payment files will be applied:

Files	Effective Dates of Service
October 2010 ASP and ASP NOC files	October 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010
July 2010 ASP and ASP NOC files	July 1, 2010, through September 30, 2010
April 2010 ASP and ASP NOC files	April 1, 2010, through June 30, 2010
January 2010 ASP and ASP NOC files	January 1, 2010, through March 31, 2010
October 2009 ASP and ASP NOC files	October 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009

NOTE: The absence or presence of a HCPCS code and its associated payment limit does not indicate Medicare coverage of the drug or biological. Similarly, the inclusion of a payment limit within a specific column does not indicate Medicare coverage of the drug in that specific category. The local Medicare contractor processing the claim shall make these determinations.

Additional Information

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

The official instruction (CR7007) issued to your Medicare MAC, carrier, and/or FI may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1990CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

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