How To – Search

Last Updated: March 12, 2026

MCD Search Introduction

The Medicare Coverage Database (MCD) Search quick facts:

❖ Complete redesign completed September 2021.

❖ Supports searching for document IDs, codes (CPT/HCPCS or ICD-10-CM), keywords, and MAC short names using a single search term box.

❖ Search Results page includes filters that allow in-place adjustment of search terms.

MCD Search Page – General Information

Key elements of the Search page:

❖ Search term box – Where you enter a search term (document ID, code, keyword, or MAC name).

❖ State filter – Use to limit your search results to a particular state.

❖ Hints – As you type a search term, hints will appear below the search term box.
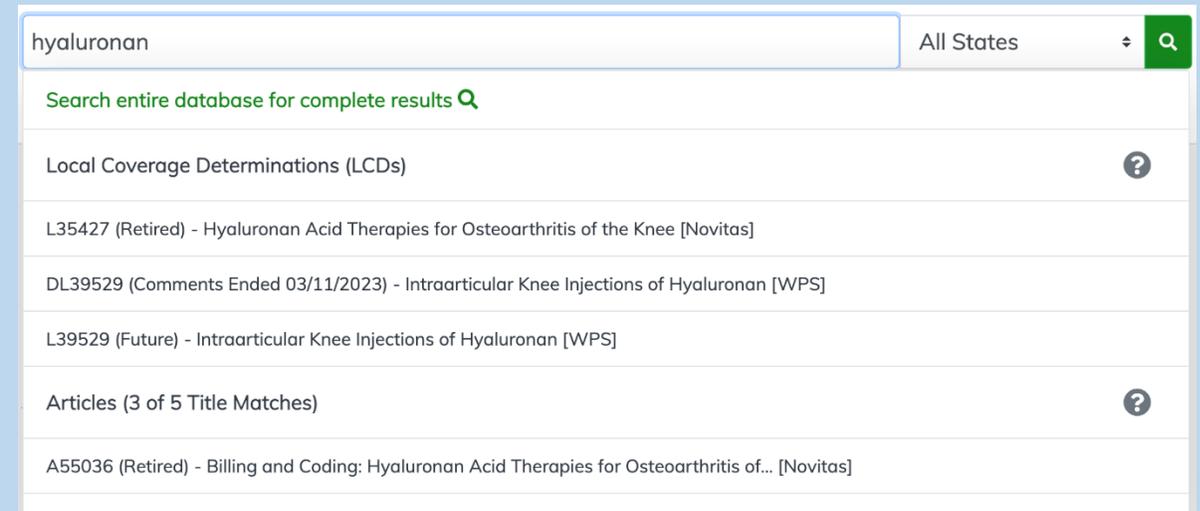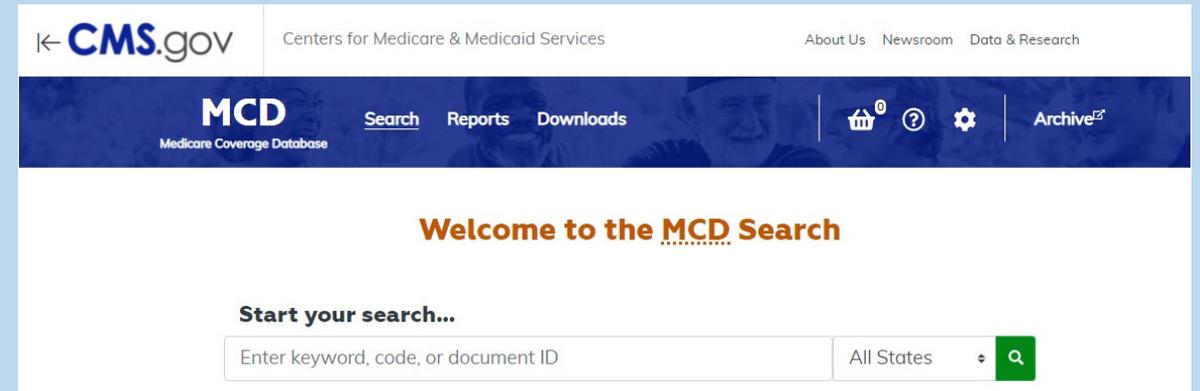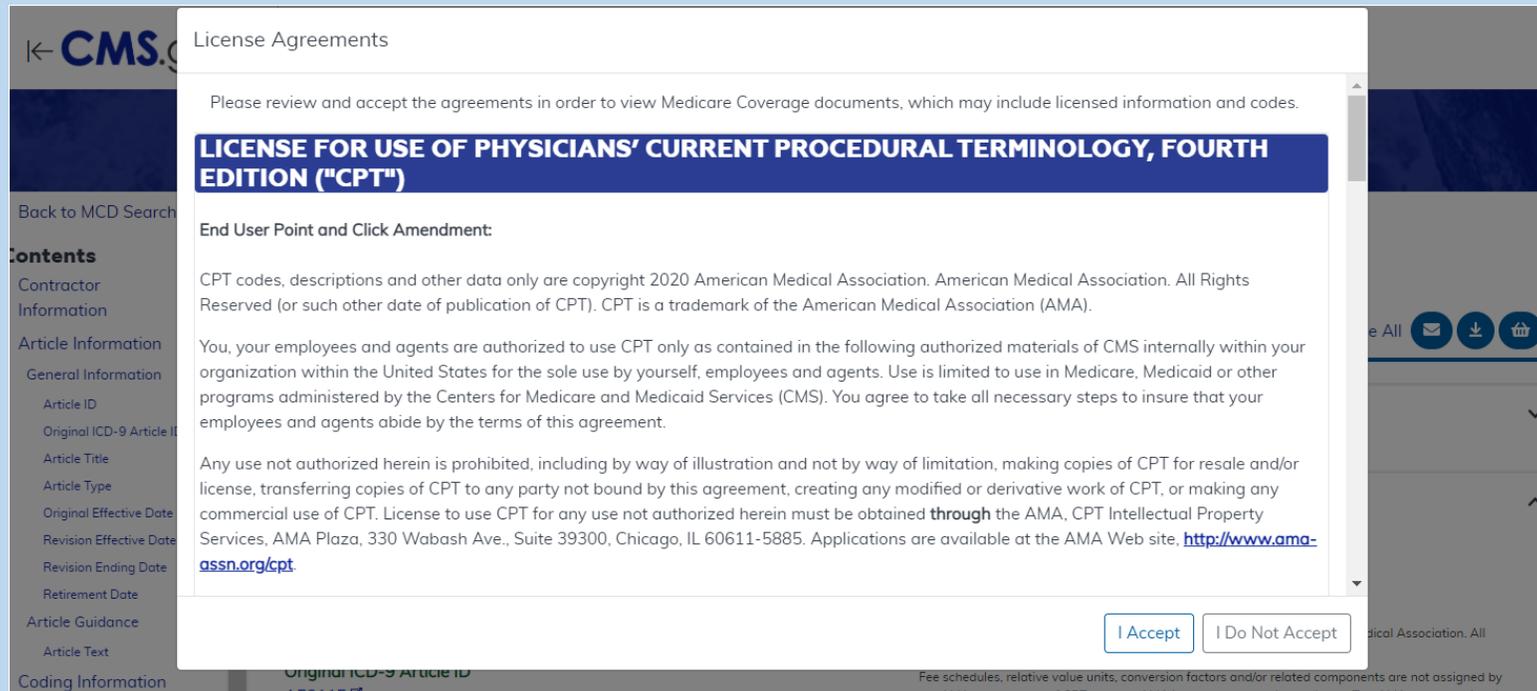
Document ID Search

❖ If known, the document ID is the most direct way to search. Enter it into the search term box.

❖ Hints will appear below the box as you type. Once the entire ID is entered, an exact match row will appear. Click on a hint/exact match to view the document.

❖ If you enter an LCD ID, you may also receive a Proposed LCD and/or a Future effective LCD version in the hint list.

❖ If the document is no longer in the MCD, but has moved to the MCD Archive, you may see that hint.

| L33794| | All States ⬍ | 🔍 |

Exact match found: View L33794 🗎

Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs) (4 ID Matches) ❓

DL33794 (Comments Ended 06/15/2020) - External Infusion Pumps [CGS, Noridian]

DL33794 (Comments Ended 02/10/2020) - External Infusion Pumps [CGS, Noridian]

L33794 - External Infusion Pumps [CGS, Noridian]

L33794 (Future) - External Infusion Pumps [CGS, Noridian]

View a document from the hint list

Before viewing the document you may be prompted to accept the CPT/HCPCS Procedure Codes AMA License Agreement. Once you click the Accept button, the full document will be visible. The license agreement should only appear once per browser session.

Document ID Search (continued)

You can search by ID for the following document types:

❖ LCDs (6 characters starting with the letter L. Example: L99999)

❖ Proposed LCDs (7 characters starting with the letters DL. Example: DL99999)

❖ Articles (6 characters starting with the letter A. Example: A99999)

❖ NCDs (All numbers, with 2 or 3 segments separated by periods. Example: 99.9.9)

❖ NCAs (Start with CAG-, then 6 or 7 characters. Example: CAG-00190R2)

Search by Code (CPT/HCPCS or ICD-10-CM)

Enter your code into the search term box.

❖ As you type, the MCD will begin to recognize your search term as a code.

❖ If you are entering a CPT/HCPCS code and have not yet accepted the CPT/HCPCS Procedure Codes AMA License Agreement for your browser session, you will see a yellow banner in the hint list. You must click on this, then Accept the agreement, in order to continue the search for codes.

Search by Code (CPT/HCPCS or ICD-10-CM) (continued)

❖ After accepting the license, a full list of code hints will appear based on your search term.

❖ Clicking a code hint displays a list of document results which contain that code.

❖ Select a state before clicking a hint, to narrow results to only one state. (Or you can filter for states on the Search Results page.)

| 1101 | All States ⇕ | 🔍 |

Search entire database for complete results 🔍

Select a CPT/HCPCS Procedure Code Below to Search for Local Coverage Documents ❓

11010 - DEBRIDEMENT INCLUDING REMOVAL OF FOREIGN MATERIAL AT THE SITE OF AN...

11011 - DEBRIDEMENT INCLUDING REMOVAL OF FOREIGN MATERIAL AT THE SITE OF AN...

11012 - DEBRIDEMENT INCLUDING REMOVAL OF FOREIGN MATERIAL AT THE SITE OF AN...

1101F - PATIENT SCREENED FOR FUTURE FALL RISK; DOCUMENTATION OF NO FALLS IN...

❖ Don't see what you expected? Click "Search entire database for complete results" to expand the search.

Search by Keyword

Enter your keyword/ keyword phrase into the search term box.

❖ As you type, possible matches appear as hints below the box. Matching is based on term being in the title (or a document's Keyword field).

❖ Maximum of 3 hints per document type will display.

❖ Click on a hint to view the document directly.

❖ If no hints appear to be what you are looking for, click "Search entire database for complete results" or click the green magnifying glass button to submit the full search.

Search by MAC Name

❖Another way to search for local coverage documents (i.e., LCDs and articles) is by Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) short name. Accepted values are:

  ❖CGS
  ❖First Coast
  ❖NGS
  ❖Noridian
  ❖Novitas
  ❖Palmetto
  ❖WPS

❖Type the MAC name into the search term box and submit the search.

❖On the Search Results page, the documents for the MAC you entered will display.

❖You can also combine the MAC name with another term to receive LCDs and articles which include both (e.g., "CGS cancer" will return LCDs and articles by CGS that include the word "cancer.")

Search Results

If you searched by code or keyword and chose to search the entire database, you will be brought to the Search Results page.

The results display documents that include your term in the title or somewhere within the document body.

Search Results – General Info

The Search Results includes several functions to help refine and organize searches.

- ❖ Filter bar – Various filters exist.
- ❖ Sort By – 5 options exist.
- ❖ Jump to – Allows quick navigation to a section of the results.
- ❖ Total Results - Changes based on criteria.
- ❖ See Also – Helpful notes based on your specific search.
- ❖ Selected Criteria – Shows filter selections.
- ❖ Document Counts – How many of each document type are in the results.

MCD Search Results

| Keyword or doc ID | Starts With ∨ | 🔍 | All Document Types ▾ | All States ▾ | All Contractors ▾ | More ▾ | Sort By: | Relevance ∨ | New search | Copy this search |

Jump to: Title Results   Total Results: 3,984

ID	Title	Type	Contractor	🛒
	Title Results (3,984)			
	Clinical Endpoints Guidance: Knee Osteoarthritis (PROPOSED)	MCD		🛒
100.3	24-Hour Ambulatory Esophageal pH Monitoring	NCD		🛒
L37798	4Kscore Test Algorithm	LCD	First Coast Service Options, Inc. (MAC - Part A, MAC - Part B)	🛒
L37792	4Kscore Test Algorithm	LCD	Novitas Solutions, Inc. (MAC - Part A, MAC - Part B)	🛒
L36763 (Retired)	4Kscore® Assay	LCD	Palmetto GBA (MAC - Part A, MAC - Part B)	🛒

Search Information »

See Also
- Codes (CPT/HCPCS, ICD-10, etc.) are now located in Billing & Coding Articles, in most cases. Learn more
- If you need an older or superseded version than the search results returned, please visit the MCD Archive ⧉ for more results.
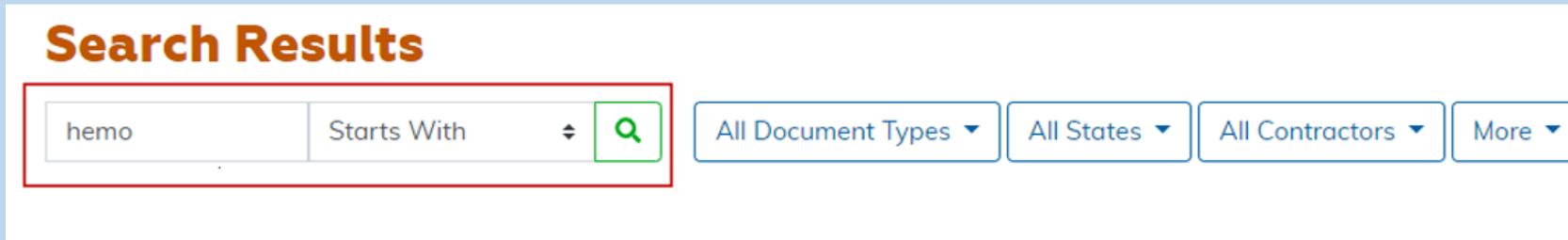
Selected Criteria
- Document Type(s): NCAs, CALs, NCDs, ...More
- State(s): All States
- Contractor(s): All Contractors

Document Counts
Articles: 2,165
CALs: 37
LCDs: 1,064

Search Results – Filter Bar: Keyword

❖A keyword entered on the Search page will appear in the keyword text box on Search Results. You can change your keyword with the Search Results filter. You can also enter a document ID if you want to search by ID.

❖Keyword options:

❖ Starts With (default). The keyword/phrase will be matched to document text that starts with what you entered. Example: "hemo" will return hemodialysis, hemoglobin, and hemophilia.

❖ All Words. The keywords do not have to be found as a phrase, but only documents with all the words you have entered will be in the results. Example: "hemoglobin test" will match to anything that has both "test" and "hemoglobin" in the document.

❖ Any Word. The keywords do not have to be found as a phrase, a document with any one of the words you have entered will be in the results. Example: "hemoglobin test" will match to anything that has either "test" or "hemoglobin" in the document.
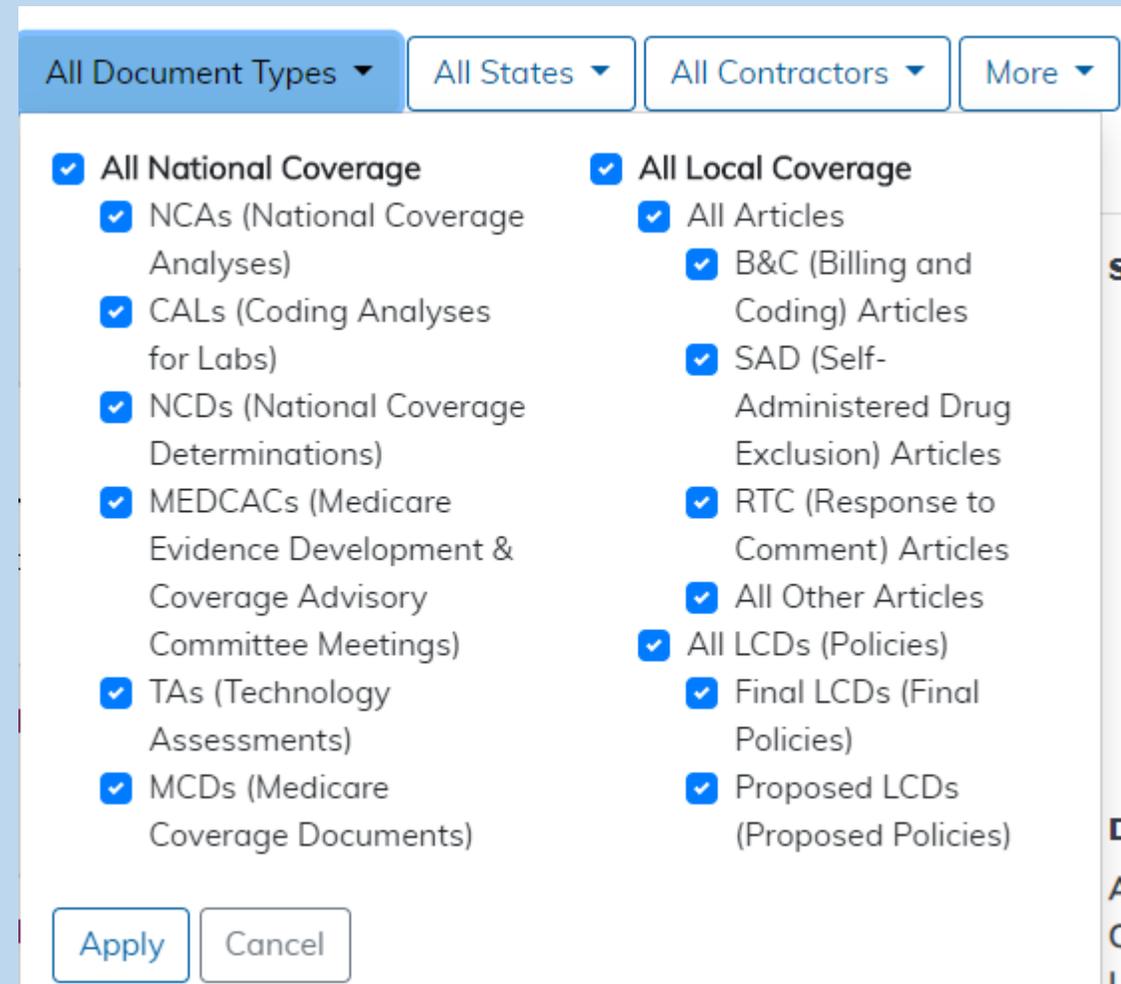
Search Results – Filter Bar: Document Type

The Document Type filter allows you to change which document types are included in the results.

❖ The default is "All Document Types" which includes all National Coverage and all Local Coverage document types.

❖ If you change this filter, the filter label will update to reflect the selection.

❖ Click the Apply button to submit the filter changes.

Search Results – Filter Bar: State

The State filter allows you to change which states are

included in the results.

❖ The default is "All States."

❖ States include states, territories, and CMS Regions.

❖If you change this filter, the label will update to reflect the selection.
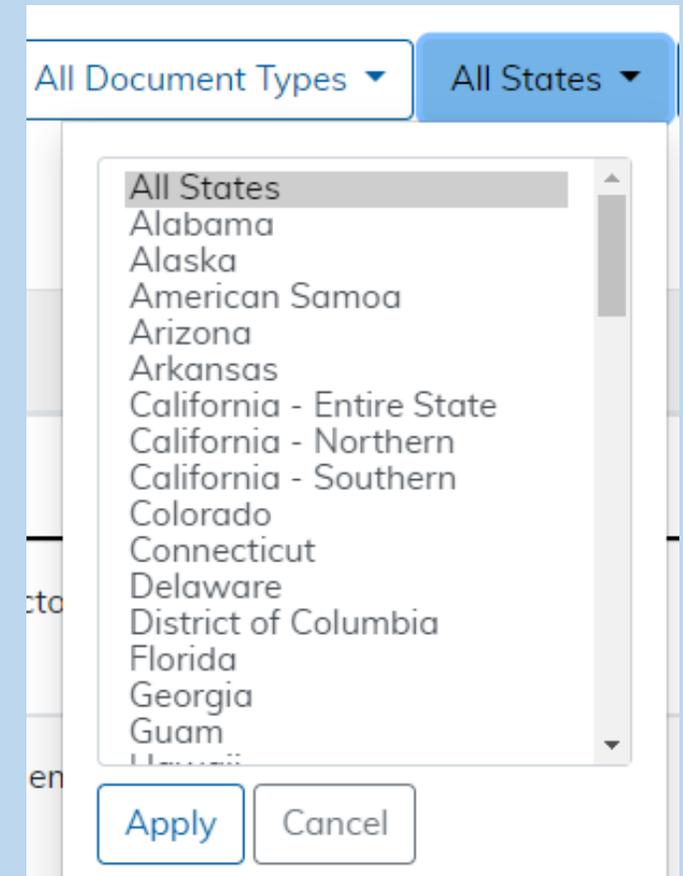
Search Results – Filter Bar: Contractor

The Contractor filter allows you to change which contractors are included in the results.

❖ The default is "All Contractors" which will search all Local Coverage contractor documents and all National Coverage documents.

❖ You can also select contractors by Contractor Number, Contract Type, or Contractor Name. When you select these options, additional select lists appear.

❖ If you change this filter, the filter label will update to reflect the selection.

Search Results – Filter Bar: More

The More filter includes several sub-filters.

❖ NCA/CAL Status - Since NCA/CAL Status applies only to NCAs and CALs, all other document types will be excluded from the results.

❖ Benefit Category - Since Benefit Category applies only to NCDs, NCAs, and CALs, all other document types will be excluded from the results.

❖ CPT/HCPCS - Filter for documents containing specific CPT/HCPCS codes. Note: National Coverage documents do not include CPT/HCPCS codes.

❖ ICD-10-CM - Filter for documents containing a specific ICD-10-CM code. Also provides an ICD-10-CM code lookup function. Note: National Coverage documents do not include ICD-10-CM codes.

❖ Date Criteria –
  ❖ Latest Update: filter for the most recent version of articles and LCDs, whether that version is currently in effect, future effective, or retired. National Coverage documents are not versioned, so this does not impact the National Coverage results.
  ❖ Currently in Effect; In Effect on a particular date; and In Effect Between two dates are also offered.

❖ Article/LCD Status - Since Article/LCD Status applies only to Local Coverage, all other document types will be excluded from the results.

Search Results – Sort By

A Sort By option is available. Choices are: Relevance (default), Title, Doc Type, Contractor, Last Updated.

❖ Relevance sort - Results are divided into two sections; one for Title Results and one for Entire Document Results.

❖ Results with the keyword in the title (or in the document's Keyword field) are considered more relevant, and are included in the Title grouping which is presented first. Results with the keyword in the body of the document (entire document search) are considered less relevant, and are listed second.

❖ Document types are mixed. Within each section the sort is alphabetical by title.

❖ Changing Sort By also changes the offered Jump To links.

Search Results – Sort By (continued)

❖ Title sort – Sorts entire results set by title. There are no Jump To links for this sort, as there is only one section.

❖ Doc Type sort – Sorts the results set by document type (articles, CALs, LCDs, etc.) Within each document type section, the results will be alphabetical by title. This sort will include Jump To links above the results table; one link for each section in the results.

❖ Contractor sort – Sorts the results into a National Coverage section (where the Contractor column is blank because there is no contractor for National Coverage) and a Local Coverage section. The Local Coverage section should be sorted alphabetically by contractor name, then alphabetically by document title. This sort will include Jump To links above the results table; one link for National Coverage, one for Local Coverage, if there is at least one result for that coverage type.

❖ Last Updated sort – Sorts the results in descending order by their most recent edit date. When using this sort, the results table will display a Last Updated date under the title for each document. The results will co-mingle National Coverage and Local Coverage documents. There are no Jump To links for this sort.

Search Results – New Search & Copy this Search
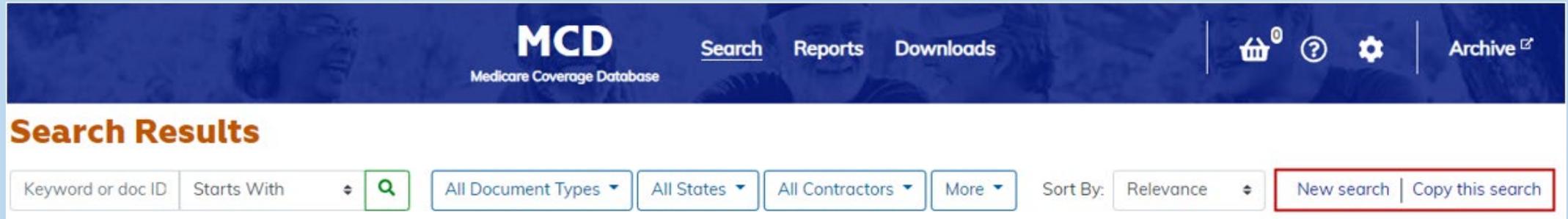
The Search Results page includes:

❖ New search – This option will clear out all criteria and take you back to the Search page to begin a new search.

❖ Copy this search – Provides an easy-to-copy URL to use for bookmarking or sharing searches. The URL will allow a user to re-submit the exact search criteria.

Search Results – See Also

On the right side of the Search Results page, the Search Information panel is displayed. This includes a See Also section which provides important notes related to your search.

There is also a Selected Criteria section.

❖ Criteria from the filters will display here.

❖ Multiple criteria will be partially shown to save space but click on …More to show all. Click on Less to collapse again.

The Document Counts section also helps keep track of results.

The sections update as criteria is changed.

Informational Cards

On the Search page, below the search term box, there are informational cards.

❖ Notice Board – CMS will post key topics relevant to the Medicare Coverage Database (MCD) in this section. Click each link to read more.

❖ Beneficiary? – Provides information specific to beneficiaries who may be on the MCD looking for information.

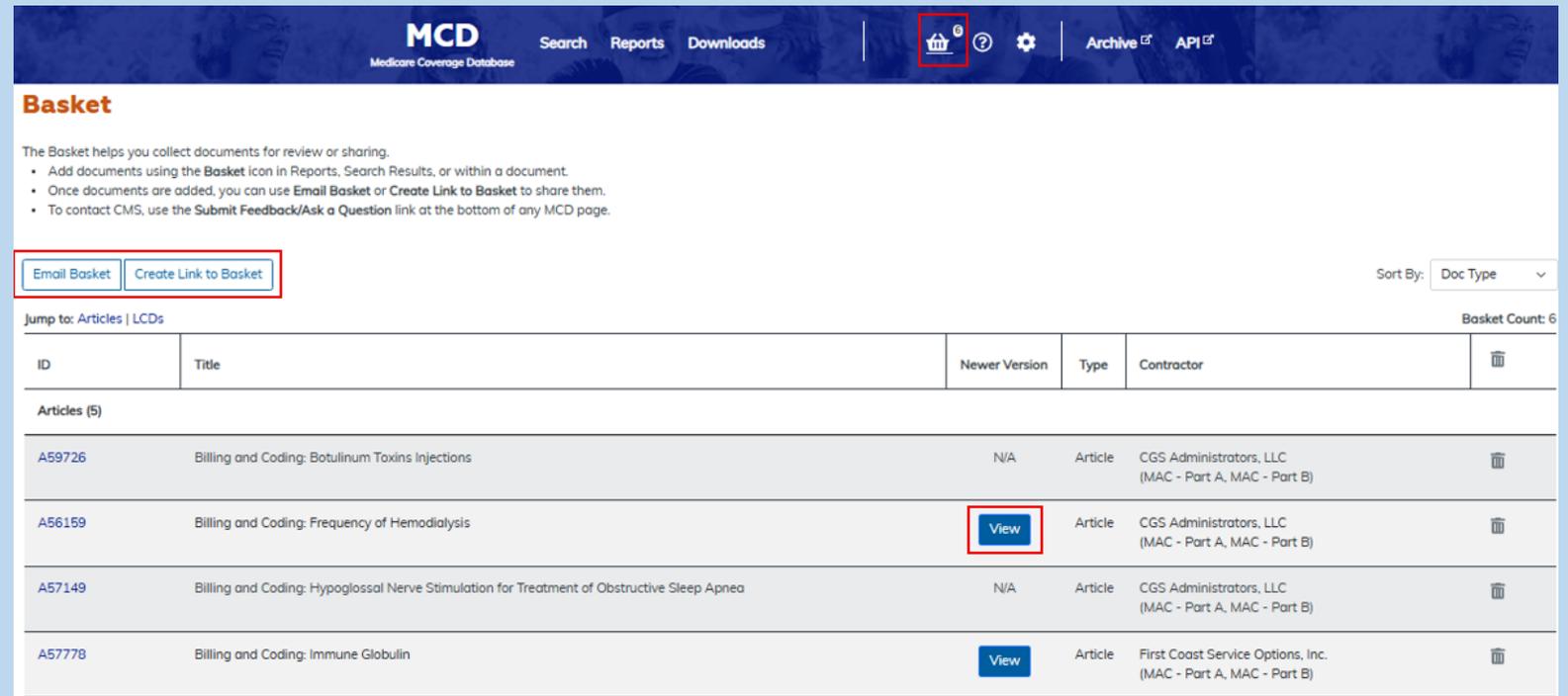❖ Public Comments – If any NCAs are open for comment, the comment submission form is accessible from here.

MCD Navigation Bar – Basket

The MCD navbar includes a **Basket** feature.

❖ Documents can be added to the basket when viewing them. The **Basket** button is in the top right corner of documents found on the MCD.

❖ Documents can also be added from the Search or Report Results pages. Click the **Basket** icon next to any document to add it to the basket.

❖ View the basket contents by clicking on the **Basket** icon in the top right of the MCD navbar. The number next to the icon indicates how many documents are in the Basket.

❖ Use the **Email Basket** function to share the basket contents. Use the **Create Link to Basket** function to create a link to the basket, which can be shared with others.

❖ Click **View** in the **Newer Version** column to open a more recent version of a document, when available. Viewing the latest version does not automatically update your Basket. After making changes, create a new link to ensure your URL reflects the current contents. Use the **Newer Version** sort option to display documents with newer versions at the top of your Basket.

MCD Navigation Bar –Help

The MCD navbar includes a Help feature.

Options for Help include:

❖ Help & Resources – Clicking this will bring you to the MCD Help & Resources page which provides a variety of information and resource links helpful to MCD users.

❖ Page Help – Clicking this provides a slide-out window with detailed information about the particular MCD page you are on.

❖ Contact Us – Clicking this opens an email to MCDFeedback@cms.hhs.gov. This is the same email that is provided via the Submit Feedback/Ask a Question link that is at the bottom of each MCD page.

MCD Navigation Bar – Settings

The MCD navbar includes a Settings feature.

Options for Settings include:

❖ Reset Search Data – Use this feature to manually clear the cache on the rare occasion when Search data has not been refreshed properly.