Mandatory Reporting of the 8-Digit National Clinical Trial Identifier Number

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The NCT identifier number is assigned by the National Library of Medicine (NLM) at http://clinicaltrials.gov/ website when a new study appears in the NLM Clinical Trials data base.

This number is listed prominently on each specific study’s page and is always preceded by the letters ‘NCT’.

CMS uses the NCT number to identify all items and services provided to beneficiaries during their participation in a clinical trial, clinical study, or registry.
The NCT identifier number allows CMS to:

- Track Medicare payments,
- Ensure that the information gained from the research is used to inform coverage decisions, and,
- Make certain that the research focuses on issues of importance to the Medicare population.
Institutional claims

- Paper: 8-digit NCT identifier number in the value amount value code ‘D4’ of FORM CMS UB-04 (Form Locators 39-41)
- Electronic: 8-digit NCT identifier number on equivalent 837I in Loop 2300 REF02 (REF01=P4)

when a clinical trial claim includes:

- Condition code 30;
- ICD-9 code V70.7/ICD-10 code Z00.6 in either the primary or secondary positions; and
- Modifier Q0 and/or Q1, as appropriate (outpatient claims only).
NCT Coding Instructions:

- **Professional claims**
  - Paper: 8-digit NCT identifier number preceded by alpha characters ‘CT’ in Field 19 of Form CMS-1500 (e.g., CT12345678)
  - Electronic: 8-digit NCT identifier number on equivalent 837P in Loop 2300 REF02(REF01=P4) no ‘CT’ (e.g., 12345678)

When a clinical trial claim includes:
- ICD-9 code V70.7/ICD-10 code Z00.6 (in either the primary or secondary positions), and,
- Modifier Q0 and/or Q1, as appropriate (outpatient claims only).
Optional Directions for Reporting NCT Identifier Number

- For those CMS stakeholders who do not have the capacity at this time to report the NCT identifier number, a generic, 8-digit number 99999999 may be reported instead.

- Instructions provided in CR8401 would continue to apply for entering the optional, generic number effective 1/1/14 – 1/1/15.

- The designated fields may not be left blank or the claim will be returned.

- This in no way precludes those already reporting and/or able to report the actual 8-digit NCT identifier number from doing so.
Reference Links