



Related MLN Matters Article #: SE0631

Date Posted: May 11, 2006

Related CR #: N/A

### *Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Claims*

#### Key Words

SE0631, CAH, Claims, Critical, Access, Hospital

#### Provider Types Affected

Providers submitting claims to Medicare Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs) for critical access hospital (CAH) anesthesia and ambulance services provided to Medicare beneficiaries

#### Key Points

- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently became aware of the following claims processing issues for CAH anesthesia and ambulance services:
  - CAH Method II claims **are reimbursing at an incorrect rate** when the claims have both:
    - **Revenue Code 0964** (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) Professional Services) and
    - Anesthesia Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS (00100-01999)); and
  - All CAH claims with ambulance services (Revenue Codes 054X) are suspending because the **line level coinsurance total does not match the claim level coinsurance**.
- FIs have been instructed to hold claims that fall into the above two categories until a Fiscal Intermediary Shared System (FISS) correction is released and installed by FIs no later than June 5, 2006.
- The FISS is used by FIs to process these claims.

However, the FISS system was NOT corrected by June 5 and will NOT be corrected until September 4, 2006.

Until the appropriate corrections are made to Medicare's systems, affected claims will be handled as follows:

- On CAH Method II claims with revenue code 0964 (Professional Fees, Anesthetist (CRNA)): FIs will change revenue code from 0964, used to bill CRNA services, to revenue code 0379 (Other

Anesthesia). This will allow the correct reimbursement to be calculated. Once Medicare's FISS system is changed, CRNA services can again be processed under 0964.

- All CAH claims with ambulance services (revenue codes 054X): FIs will return these claims to the provider, asking that providers remove the ambulance charges from the claim and submit a separate bill with just the ambulance charges for payment. Providers can resume billing both services on a single claim once the FISS system is modified on or about September 4, 2006.

### Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0631.pdf>

If affected providers have any questions, they should contact their intermediary at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.