Related MLN Matters Article #: MM3829

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Related CR #: 3829

New Patient Status Code to Define Discharges or Transfers to a Critical Access Hospital (CAH)

Key Words

MM3829, CR3829, R156OTN, Critical, Access, CAH, Discharge, Transfers, Uniform, Billing, NUBC

Provider Types Affected

Providers that bill Medicare fiscal intermediaries (FIs) for patients discharged or transferred to critical access hospitals (CAHs)

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is for discharges/"to" dates on or after January 1, 2006.
- The implementation date is October 3, 2005 (relates to Medicare system implementation date).
- Effective for claims with discharge/"to" dates on or after January 1, 2006, providers must stop using a generic code when discharging or transferring patients to a CAH.
- The new patient code of "66" must be entered on a claim when a patient is discharged or transferred to a CAH.
- Prior to the introduction of the new code, providers used 01, 05, or some other code since there was no specific code available.
- Effective for claims with discharge dates or "to" dates on January 1, 2006, or later, the patient status code of 66 must be used.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at *http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3829.pdf* on the CMS website.

Affected providers may view the official instruction that was released to their intermediary at *http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R156OTN.pdf* on the CMS website.