



Related MLN Matters Article #: 4161

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Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for January 2006

Key Words

MM4161, CR4161, NCD, V76.44, laboratory, prostate, neoplasms, 158.8, 158.9

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers billing Medicare carriers and/or fiscal intermediaries (FIs) for clinical diagnostic laboratory services

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is January 1, 2006.
- The implementation date is January 3, 2006.
- This article is based on Change Request (CR) 4161, which announces the implementation of changes to the list of codes associated with the 23 negotiated laboratory NCDs.
- These changes to the list of codes are a result of revised NCD and coding analysis decisions developed under the procedures for maintenance of codes in the negotiated NCDs.
- They are necessary for the correct processing of claims using the most current negotiated lab NCDs and code lists.
- The laboratory edit module for the NCDs is updated quarterly as necessary to reflect coding updates and substantive changes to the NCDs developed through the NCD process.
- CR4161 announced the following changes:
 - ICD-9-CM code V76.44 (special screening for malignant neoplasms, prostate) will be removed from the list of ICD-9-CM codes not covered by Medicare. This list of codes affects all 23 negotiated laboratory NCDs.
 - ICD-9-CM code V76.44 (special screening for malignant neoplasms, prostate) will be added to the list of ICD-9-CM codes that do not support Medical Necessity in the Blood Counts NCD.

- ICD-9-CM codes 158.8 (Malignant neoplasms, specific parts of peritoneum) and 158.9 (Malignant neoplasms, peritoneum, unspecified) will be added to the list of ICD-9-CM codes covered by Medicare in the Tumor Antigen by Immunoassay CA 125 NCD.
- Decision memoranda explaining these changes can be found by going to <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/center/coverage.asp> on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) website and clicking on the National Coverage Analysis in the Coverage Database section of the web page.

Important Links

The MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4161.pdf> on the CMS website.

The Final Rule, Federal Register Volume 66, Number 226, can be found at

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/a011123c.html.

The *Medicare Claims Processing Manual* (Pub. 100-04, Chapter 16, Section 120.2) is available at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c16.pdf> on the CMS website.

The final Federal Register notice, Volume 70, Number 37, dated February 25, 2005, can be found at

http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/a050225c.html