



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM5730

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Revisions to 9-Digit ZIP Code List Provided in Change Request (CR) 5208

Key Words

MM5730, CR5730, R1337CP, Revisions, 9-Digit, ZIP, CR5208, R1167CP

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and other health care practitioners submitting claims to Medicare carriers or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) for services paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) and for anesthesia services

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is October 22, 2007.
- The implementation date is October 22, 2007.
- Medicare contractors have been directed to determine payment locality for services paid under the MPFS and anesthesia services by using the ZIP code on the claim of where the service was performed.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) realizes that some ZIP codes fall into more than one payment locality.
- The CMS ZIP code file uses the convention of the United States Postal Service, which assigns these ZIP codes into dominant counties.
- In some cases, though the service may actually be rendered in one county, but per the ZIP code, it is assigned into a different county.
- This causes a payment issue when each of the counties has a different payment locality and therefore, a different payment amount.
- In order to correct this, Medicare requires the submission of 9-digit ZIP codes to carriers/A/B MACs for services paid under the MPFS and anesthesia services, when the services are provided in those ZIP code areas listed in Change Request (CR) 5208 as well as those ZIP codes added in MM5730.
- CR5208, issued March 09, 2007, had attached to it the list of ZIP codes that would require the 9-digit ZIP codes effective for claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2007.

- Providers can find additions and deletions to the ZIP code list in CR5208 on page 2 of MLN Matters article 5730.
- The exception occurs when the Place of Service (POS) is "Home," and for any other places of service that the provider's Medicare carrier or A/B MAC currently considers to be the same as "Home." Currently, there is no requirement for the submission of a ZIP code when the POS is "Home."

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5730.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR5730) regarding this change may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1337CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

To review the list of ZIP codes in CR5208, providers may go to

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5208.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR5208) may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1167CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If providers have questions, they may contact their Medicare carrier or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.