



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM5923

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Additional Clarification to Chapter 17, Section 40, Regarding Processing of Drug Claims with the JW Modifier

Key Words

MM5923, CR5923, R1478CP, Drug, JW

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers and suppliers billing Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs), Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, and/or Durable Medical Equipment MACs (DME MACs) for drugs or biologicals provided to Medicare beneficiaries

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is January 1, 2008.
- The implementation date is April 14, 2008.
- When processing all drugs, **except those provided under the Competitive Acquisition Program (CAP)** for Part B drugs and biologicals, Medicare contractors may require the use of the modifier JW to identify unused drug or biologicals from single use vials or single use packages that are appropriately discarded. This modifier will provide payment for the discarded drug or biological.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services issued Change Request (CR) 5923 to notify providers of the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual* update that clarifies the use of the JW modifier when processing all drugs except CAP drugs.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5923.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR5923) regarding this change may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1478CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

Providers may find the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 17 at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c17.pdf> on the CMS website.

If providers have questions regarding this issue, they may contact their A/B MAC, FI, or DME MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.