



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM6026

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VMS Modifications to Implement the Common Electronic Data Interchange (CEDI) System - Part II

Key Words

MM6026, CR6026, R344OTN, VMS, CEDI, Interchange

Provider Types Affected

Suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is October 1, 2008.
- The implementation date is October 6, 2008.
- Change Request (CR) 6026 provides VMS modification details needed to implement the CEDI system.
- The VMS will no longer support the existing claims control number (CCN) format for X12 (837) claims.
 - The claims control number (CCN) format for X12 (837) claims will be CYYJJBBBBSS000, where:
 - C=Century,
 - YY = Year,
 - JJJ = Julian Day,
 - BBBB = Batch Number,
 - SS = Sequence Number, and
 - 000 is a number for internal CMS system use only.

Note: CR6026 does not affect providers billing carriers, fiscal intermediaries, regional home health intermediaries, or Part A/B MACs.

Background

- Currently, front-end EDI processing for DME claims occurs in four separate systems. Two of these systems are operated by DME MACs, and two are operated by data services contractors under direct contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).
- These front-end EDI systems perform edits on incoming Medicare DME claims and forward the output data from transactions that pass edits to the core of the VMS shared system claims processing environment.
- Each of the four systems used for DME front-end transaction processing has been developed as a proprietary system to meet its developer's own business objectives. The logic specific to Medicare requirements was added to accommodate the Medicare claims transactions.
- Since each system is owned and developed by separate entities, variations exist in the way that individual front-end systems process claims and in the results that they produce. This creates confusion with suppliers and beneficiaries and can also lead to the rejection of eligible claims as well as the payment of ineligible claims depending upon which front end system processed the transaction.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6026.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR6026) issued regarding this change may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R344OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.

Providers may also want to review MLN Matters article MM5755 ("VMS Modifications to Implement the Common Electronic Data Interchange (CEDI) System") at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5755.pdf> on the CMS website.