



## Clarifications to Audiology Update Transmittal 1470 – JA6061

Related CR Release Date : July 18, 2008

Date Job Aid Revised: August 14, 2008

Effective Date: October 1, 2008

Implementation Date: August 18, 2008

**Key Words**

MM6061, CR6061, R1550CP, Audiology

**Contractors Affected**

- Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)
- Medicare Carriers

**Provider Types Affected**

Audiologists submitting claims to A/B MACs and carriers for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries



Change Request (CR) 6061 alerts Audiologists who are not currently enrolled that they are required to obtain their National Provider Identifier (NPI) and use it on claims for services they render on or after October 1, 2008.

An audiologist not previously enrolled with Medicare should initiate Medicare enrollment as soon as they obtain an NPI.

**Provider Needs to Know...**

Audiologists, who are enrolled and bill Medicare independently, must have obtained their NPI for Medicare claims as of May 23, 2008. They must currently use it on claims for services they render.

Those audiologists not currently enrolled with Medicare should obtain their NPI and enroll with Medicare as soon as possible prior to October 1, 2008.

Audiologists who are not currently enrolled may continue to have their services billed as diagnostic test services by a physician or group until October 1, 2008.

The audiologist's NPI is required on all claims for services rendered by audiologists as of October 1, 2008.

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Background

Transmittal 1470, (CR5717) titled, "Update to Audiology Policies", was issued February 29, 2008, with clarifications to the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*. In Chapter 12, Section 30.3, the manual instructions state, ". . . the audiologist's NPI is required on all claims for services furnished by audiologists." CR6061 responds to questions concerning CR5717.

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Operational  
Impact

Prior to October 1, 2008, contractors will continue to process claims for services furnished by audiologists, who are not enrolled, using the same process and policies that they have used in the past.

On and after October 1, 2008, audiologists will use their NPI in the appropriate field (24J, or 33a, or the corresponding fields on the X12N 837 Professional Claim transaction).

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Reference  
Materials

The related MLN Matters article can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6061.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR6061) regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1550CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

The updated *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 12 (Physicians/Non-Physician Practitioners), Section 30.3 (Audiological Diagnostic Tests, Speech-Language Evaluations and Treatments) is an attachment to CR6061.

An MLN Matters article related to CR5717 is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5717.pdf> on the CMS website.

Providers may download enrollment applications at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/02\\_EnrollmentApplications.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/02_EnrollmentApplications.asp#TopOfPage) on the CMS website. Audiologists should use the February 2008 version of the Medicare enrollment application (until it is revised or re-issued).

To learn more about the NPI and how to obtain an NPI, providers may visit [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/06\\_implementation.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/06_implementation.asp) on the CMS website.

Information on enrolling as a Medicare provider is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/> on the CMS website.

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