



Multiple Procedure Payment Reduction (MPPR) on the Technical Component (TC) of Certain Diagnostic Imaging Procedures – JA6965

Note: JA6965 was revised to add a reference to MM6993 at <http://www.cms.gov/MLN MattersArticles/downloads/MM6993.pdf>, which alerts providers that effective January 1, 2011, CMS is consolidating the 11 advanced imaging families into a single family. Medicare will make full TC payment for the procedure with the highest priced TC, and 50 percent each for the TC of each additional procedure on the same patient on the same day.

Related CR Release Date: May 7, 2010 **Revised**

Date Job Aid Revised: December 22, 2010

Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Implementation Date: July 6, 2010

Key Words MM6965, CR6965, R694OTN, MPPR, TC, Diagnostic, Imaging

Contractors Affected

- Medicare Carriers
- Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs)

Provider Types Affected Provider types affected are physicians and providers submitting claims to Medicare Carriers and MACs for multiple diagnostic imaging procedures provided to Medicare beneficiaries.



Change Request (CR) 6965 directs Medicare Carriers and MACs to reduce the payment under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) for the TC of certain multiple diagnostic imaging procedures done in a single imaging session from 75 percent to 50 percent.

Provider Needs to Know...

- Section 3135(b) of the Affordable Care Act of 2009 (ACA) reduces payment for TC of the second and subsequent procedures from 75 percent to 50 percent of the MPFS amount. Medicare currently applies a MPPR of 25 percent to the TC of certain diagnostic imaging procedures.
- The reduction applies to TC only services and the TC portion of global services for procedures with a multiple surgery value of '4' in the Medicare Fee Schedule database.

- The MPPR does not apply to the professional component (PC) or to the PC portion of global services. The 11 families of imaging codes to which this policy applies are established according to modality (computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and ultrasound) and body area.
- The reduction applies only to more than one procedure performed in a single imaging session on contiguous body parts (i.e., within a family of codes, not across families). For example, the reduction would not apply to an MRI of the brain (CPT 70552) in code family 5 (MRI/MRA Head/Brain/Neck), when performed during the same session, on the same day, as an MRI of the neck and spine (CPT 72142) in code family 6 (MRI/MRA Spine).
- The current payment and payment as of July 1, 2010, are summarized below in the following example:

	Procedure 1	Procedure 2	Current Total Payment	Revised Total Payment
PC	\$100	\$80	\$180 (no reduction)	\$180 (no reduction)
TC	\$500	\$400	\$800 (\$500 + (.75 x \$400))	\$700 ((\$500 + (.5 x \$400))
Global	\$600	\$480	\$980 ((\$600 + (\$480-\$400)) + (.75 x \$400))	\$880 ((\$600 + (\$480-\$400) + (.5 x \$400))

Background

- Medicare currently applies a MPPR of 25 percent to the TC of certain diagnostic imaging procedures. The reduction applies to TC only services, and the TC portion of global services, for the procedures with a multiple surgery value of '4' in the Medicare Fee Schedule database.
- The MPPR does not apply to the PC or to the PC portion of global services.
- The 11 families of imaging codes to which this policy applies are established according to modality (computed tomography (CT), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and ultrasound) and body area.
- The reduction applies only to more than one procedure performed in a single imaging session on contiguous body parts (i.e., within a family of codes, not across families). For example, the reduction would not apply to an MRI of the brain (CPT 70552) in code family 5 (MRI/MRA Head/Brain/Neck), when performed during the same session, on the same day, as an MRI of the neck and spine (CPT 72142) in code family 6 (MRI/MRA Spine).

Operational Impact N/A

Reference
Materials

The related MLN Matters® article can be found at
<http://www.cms.gov/MLN MattersArticles/downloads/MM6965.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR6965) issued regarding this change may be found at
<http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R6940TN.pdf> on the CMS website.
