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### *Update to the Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTC) Version 5.0*

#### Keywords

CR3716, MM3716, R479CP, HPTC, Taxonomy, HIPAA, Taxonomy, ANSI, DMERC

#### Provider Types Affected

Providers who bill Medicare Carriers including Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERCs)

#### Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is April 1, 2005.
- The implementation date is April 4, 2005.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has released the summary of changes reflected in version 5.0 of the HPTC list.
- Medicare carriers and DMERCs will update their HPTC tables with this new version effective on April 1, 2005.
- The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that submitted data, which is part of a named code set, be valid data from that code set.
- Claims submitted with invalid data are non-compliant.
- Under HIPAA, code sets that characterize a general administrative situation, rather than a medical condition or service, are referred to as non-clinical or non-medical code sets.
- The provider taxonomy code set is an external non-medical data code set designed for use in classifying health care providers according to provider type or practitioner specialty in an electronic environment, specifically within the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) health care transaction.
- The health care provider taxonomy is a named code set in the 837 professional implementation guide; therefore, carriers must validate the inbound taxonomy codes against their internal HPTC tables.

- The HPTCs are updated twice per year, in April and October.
- The summary of changes for Version 5.0 is noted in the table on page 2 of MLN Matters article MM3716.
- The HPTC code list is available in the following two forms from the Washington Publishing Company at <http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes/taxonomy> in the following formats:
  - A free Adobe PDF download, or
  - An electronic representation of the list which will facilitate automatic loading of the code set, this version is available for purchase.

### Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3716.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR3716) regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R479CP.pdf> on the CMS website.