



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM3748

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New Contrast Agents Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes

Key Words

Contrast, HCPCS, ASP, MM3748, CR3748, R502CP, Payments

Provider Types Affected

All providers, suppliers and physicians billing Medicare Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs) or Carriers for contrast agents

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is April 1, 2005.
- The implementation date is April 4, 2005.
- Effective April 1, 2005, the HCPCS codes for contrast agents listed in the table on Pages 1 and 2 in MLN Matters article MM3748 will be added to the HCPCS.
- Beginning on April 1, 2005, the new codes for contrast agents will become effective, except for hospital outpatient departments, which should continue to use the current "A" codes.
- Payments for these new "Q" codes can be viewed at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/01_overview.asp#TopOfPage on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.
- Payment for these contrast agents will be based on the Average Sales Price (ASP) plus 6 percent, effective April 1, 2005.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3748.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction issued to the provider's intermediary regarding this change may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R502CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If providers have any questions, they may contact their intermediary at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.