



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM4044

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*Redesigned Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Consolidated Billing (CB) Annual Update File and Discontinuation of the SNF Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Help File*

### Key Words

MM4044, CR4044, R685CP, Annual, Update, File, SNF, HCPCS, SNF, CB, Consolidated

### Provider Types Affected

Providers billing fiscal intermediaries (FIs)

### Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is December 27, 2005.
- The implementation date is December 27, 2005.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is discontinuing the SNF Help File and is redirecting contractors and providers to a new FI SNF CB web page, which provides more current and accurate information on SNF CB.
- CMS has redesigned the SNF CB Annual Update file in Excel® and PDF formats to enable providers to more easily:
  - Search for a specific HCPCS code; and
  - Determine if the HCPCS code is excluded from SNF CB.
- Providers should access the latest/redesigned SNF CB Annual Update to determine whether a service is excluded from SNF CB.
- The Annual Update can be found under the "2005 Annual and Quarterly Updates" section at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SNFConsolidatedBilling/90\\_2005\\_FI\\_Update.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SNFConsolidatedBilling/90_2005_FI_Update.asp#TopOfPage) on the CMS website.

**Note:** The SNF Help File is not current and should not be used as a guide to determine if services provided to Medicare beneficiaries are included or excluded from SNF CB.

## Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4044.pdf>

Affected providers can find the official instruction issued to their FI regarding this change at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R685CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

A new SNF CB web site for providers billing FIs, including a new redesigned Annual Update file, is available at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SNFPPS/05\\_ConsolidatedBilling.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SNFPPS/05_ConsolidatedBilling.asp) on the CMS website.

The Annual Update can be found at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SNFConsolidatedBilling/90\\_2005\\_FI\\_Update.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SNFConsolidatedBilling/90_2005_FI_Update.asp#TopOfPage) on the CMS website.