



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM6047

Date Posted: May 21, 2008

Related CR #: 6047

Revisions to the Billing Requirements for End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)-Related Epoprotein Alfa (EPO) and Darbepoetin Alfa (Aranesp) Administrations Provided During Unscheduled or Emergency Dialysis Treatments in the Outpatient Hospital Setting

Key Words

MM6047, CR6047, R1503CP, Billing, ESRD, EPO, Aranesp, Dialysis, Outpatient, Hospital

Provider Types Affected

Hospitals submitting claims to Medicare Fiscal Intermediaries and/or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors for dialysis services provided to Medicare beneficiaries

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is October 1, 2008.
- The implementation date is October 6, 2008.
- Change Request (CR) 3184, dated June 4, 2004, established Medicare system edits that require the presence of hospital emergency room visit revenue code 045X in order to allow payment for ESRD-related EPO and Aranesp provided in conjunction with an emergency dialysis treatment.
- Effective October 1, 2008, revenue code 045x will no longer be required in order to allow for EPO and Aranesp payments related to an unscheduled or emergency dialysis treatment.
- Change Request (CR) 6047 revises current Medicare system edits associated with unscheduled and emergency dialysis treatments in the hospital outpatient setting to allow for the payment of EPO and Aranesp, Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Q4081 and J0882 **only** when HCPCS G0257 is present on the same claim.
- The definition for HCPCS code G0257 is as follows: Unscheduled or emergency dialysis treatment for an ESRD patient in a hospital outpatient department that is not certified as an ESRD facility.
- Effective October 1, 2008, Medicare contractors will:
 - Only make payment for ESRD-related EPO or Aranesp in the outpatient hospital setting (13x and 85x bill types) when HCPCS code G0257 appears on the same claim, and
 - Return to the provider any outpatient hospital claims containing ESRD-related EPO or Aranesp when HCPCS code G0257 does not appear on the same claim.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6047.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR6047) regarding this change may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1503CP.pdf> on the CMS website.