



## Provider Inquiry Assistance

### Update to List of International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) Diagnosis Codes Not Requiring the Q0 Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Modifier for Automatic Implantable Cardiac Defibrillator (ICD) Services Provided in a Clinical Study – JA6867

**Note:** JA6867 was revised to correct several references to the Q0 modifier to emphasize the reference is for modifier Q0 (zero) and not QO. All other information remains the same.

Related CR Release Date: March 26, 2010 **Revised**

Date Job Aid Revised: May 5, 2010

Effective Date: October 1, 2007 for ICD-9-CM V12.53

Implementation Date: July 6, 2010

**Key Words** MM6867, CR6867, R663OTN, ICD, Implantable, Cardiac, Defibrillator

**Contractors Affected**

- Medicare Carriers
- Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs)
- Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)

**Provider Types Affected** Provider types affected are all providers who bill Medicare Carriers, FIs, or A/B MACs for ICD services rendered to Medicare beneficiaries.



Change Request (CR) 6867 updates the list of ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes not requiring the Q0 (zero) HCPCS modifier for ICD services provided in a clinical study.

- ICD-9-CM diagnosis code **V12.53** (effective October 1, 2007) does not require a Q0 (zero) modifier for payment.
- The following table contains a complete list of diagnosis codes that do not require a Q0 (zero) modifier.

Diagnosis codes that do not require either a QR modifier (for dates of service prior to January 1, 2008) or a Q0 (zero) modifier (for dates of service on or after January 1, 2008)	
ICD-9-CM Code	Secondary Prevention Diagnosis
427.1	Ventricular tachycardia
427.41	Ventricular fibrillation
427.42	Ventricular flutter
427.5	Cardiac arrest
427.9	Cardiac dysrhythmia, unspecified
V12.53	Personal history of sudden cardiac arrest
996.04	Mechanical complication of cardiac device, implant, and graft, due to automatic implantable cardiac defibrillator
V53.32	Fitting and adjustment of other device, automatic implantable cardiac defibrillator

Provider Needs to Know...

- When any of these codes do appear on an ICD claim, the QR modifier is not required.
- Providers are permitted to append the QR modifier for secondary prevention diagnoses if they deem it appropriate (i.e., that data is submitted to a data collection registry).

**Requiring Reporting of HCPCS Modifier QR to Identify Primary Prevention Indications for ICDs**

Background

- On March 8, 2005, CR3604 (Transmittal 497) was issued to provide instructions to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) contractors on how to process ICD implantations under newly expanded coverage. Among other specifications, CR3604 informed CMS contractors that one of the requirements for covering the new indications is that the patient be enrolled in a data collection system.
- Currently, CMS identifies claims through the procedure code for defibrillator implantation and the ABSENCE of five specified arrhythmia codes and two codes often used when the device is being replaced.
- It has come to CMS attention that one other code should be included on this list – V12.53, personal history of sudden cardiac arrest, bringing the total number of diagnosis codes to eight.

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Replacing of HCPCS Modifier QR with Q0 (zero)

- CR5805 was issued on January 18, 2008 (after CR3604 was issued). Among other things, CR5805 replaced HCPCS modifier QR with HCPCS modifier Q0 (zero), effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2008. To review the MLN Matters® article related to CR5805, providers may go to <http://www.cms.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5805.pdf> on the CMS website.

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Operational  
Impact

Effective for claims with dates of service on or after April 1, 2005, for 427.89 and on or after October 1, 2007, for V12.53, Medicare contractors will adjust as appropriate claims brought to their attention that were denied because the diagnosis code was V12.53 and lacked a Q0 modifier for dates of service on or after January 1, 2008, or lacked the QR modifier for dates of service prior to January 1, 2008

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Reference  
Materials

The related MLN Matters® article can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6867.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR6867) issued regarding this change may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R663OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.

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