



Provider Inquiry Assistance

New Physician Specialty Code for Geriatric Psychiatry – JA6533

Related CR Release Date: October 27, 2009

Date Job Aid Revised: November 5, 2009

Effective Date: April 1, 2010

Implementation Date: April 5, 2010

Key Words MM6533, CR6533, R1836CP, Physician, Specialty Code, Geriatric, Psychiatry

Contractors Affected

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

Provider Types Affected Provider types affected are physicians and non-physician practitioners who bill Medicare Carriers and A/B MACs for providing psychiatric care to geriatric Medicare beneficiaries.



- Effective April 1, 2010, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will establish a new physician specialty code (code 27) for Geriatric Psychiatry.
- The codes 32, 74, and 75 are being removed from the physician specialty section of the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, because they are non-physician specialty codes.

Provider Needs to Know...

- Change request (CR) 6533 announces that effective April 1, 2010, CMS will establish a new physician specialty code for Geriatric Psychiatry.
- For care provided on or after that effective date, carriers or A/B MACs will recognize and use specialty code 27 as a valid primary and/or secondary specialty code for Geriatric Psychiatry services provided by both individuals and organizations.

Background

- When enrolling in Medicare, physicians self-designate their Medicare physician specialty on the Medicare enrollment application (CMS-855I) or Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System. Non-physician practitioners are assigned a Medicare specialty code.

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- This specialty code becomes associated with the claims that the physician or non-physician practitioner submits and describes the specific/unique types of medicine that physicians and non-physician practitioners (and certain other suppliers) practice.
 - CMS uses these specialty codes for programmatic and claims processing purposes.
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Operational Impact	N/A
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Reference Materials	<p>The related MLN Matters® article can be found at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6533.pdf on the CMS website.</p> <p>The official instruction (CR6533) issued regarding this change may be found at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1836CP.pdf on the CMS website.</p>
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