



Provider Inquiry Assistance

New Place of Service (POS) Code for Walk-in Retail Health Clinic – JA6752

Related CR Release Date: December 11, 2009

Date Job Aid Revised: January 6, 2010

Effective Date: March 11, 2010

Implementation Date: March 11, 2010

Key Words MM6752, CR6752, R1869CP, Walk-in, Retail, Health, Clinic

Contractors Affected

- Medicare Carriers
- Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Contractors (DME MACs)
- Part A/B MACs

Provider Types Affected Physicians, non-physician practitioners, Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC), Independent Diagnostic Testing Facilities (IDTFs), DME, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) suppliers, and Clinical Diagnostic Laboratories submitting claims to Medicare Carriers, A/B MACs and DME MACs



Change Request (CR) 6752 announces that a new code of 17 (Walk-in Retail Health Clinic) has been added to the current POS code set.

Provider Needs to Know...

- The new code's description (Code 17) is as follows: "a walk-in health clinic, other than an office, urgent care facility, pharmacy or independent clinic, and not described by any other POS code that is located within a retail operation and provides, on an ambulatory basis, preventive and primary care services."
- For the health care industry**, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) effective date of the new POS code for walk-in retail health clinics is no later than May 1, 2010, with covered entities permitted to use it at any time after which the new code is posted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) POS webpage.

- The new code 17 was established because industry entities (other than Medicare) identified a need to track the suppliers and settings of immunizations in greater detail than afforded through the current POS code set. These entities specifically wished to capture the walk-in retail health clinic, which they believe will be a common setting for immunizations.
- Medicare has not identified a need for this new code.
- Therefore, providers should continue to use the billing instructions for immunizations described in the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 18 (<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c18.pdf>), Section 10.

Background

- As an entity covered under the HIPAA, Medicare must comply with standards and their implementation guides adopted by regulation under this statute.
- The currently adopted professional implementation guide for the Accredited Standards Committee X12 837 standards requires that each electronic claim transaction include a POS code from the POS code set maintained by CMS.
- As a payer, Medicare must be able to recognize as valid any valid code from the POS code set that appears on the HIPAA standard claim transaction.
- In accordance with HIPAA, Medicare will be able to recognize POS code 17 as valid by May 1, 2010, with plans to do so by March 11, 2010.

**Operational
Impact**

N/A

**Reference
Materials**

The related MLN Matters® article can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6752.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR6752) regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1869CP.pdf> on the CMS website.
