



Provider Inquiry Assistance

Claim Adjustment Reason Code (CARC), Remittance Advice Remark Code (RARC), and Medicare Remit Easy Print (MREP) Update – JA6742

Related CR Release Date: November 27, 2009

Date Job Aid Revised: December 17, 2009

Effective Date: January 1, 2010

Implementation Date: January 4, 2010

Key Words MM6742, CR6742, R1862CP, Remittance, CARC, RARC, MREP

- Contractors Affected**
- Medicare Carriers
 - Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs)
 - Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)
 - Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs)
 - Durable Medical Equipment MACs (DME MACs)

Provider Types Affected Physicians, providers, and suppliers who submit claims to Medicare Carriers, FIs, RHHIs, A/B MACs, and DME MACs for services



Change Request (CR) 6742 announces the latest update of RARCs and CARCs, effective January 1, 2010.

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- Provider Needs to Know...**
- The lists at the end of the Additional Information section of MLN Matters® article MM6742 summarize the latest changes to the CARC and RARC, as announced in CR6742.
 - This list includes:
 - New, modified, and deactivated CARC codes, and
 - New, modified, and deactivated RARC codes.
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- The CARC and RARC lists are posted at <http://www.wpc-edi.com/Codes> on the Washington Publishing Company (WPC) website.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) tool to search for a specific category of code is available at <http://www.cmsremarkcodes.info> on the CMS website.
- The CMS website does not replace the WPC website. If there are any discrepancies in what is posted on the CMS website and the WPC website, providers should consider the WPC website to be correct.
- The MREP software will also be updated to include the most current CARC and RARC lists.

Background

- The reason and remark code sets are used to report payment adjustments in remittance advice transactions. The reason codes are also used in some coordination-of-benefits transactions.
- The RARC list is maintained by CMS and used by all payers. Additions, deactivations, and modifications to it may be initiated by any health care organization.
- The CARC list is maintained by a national Code Maintenance Committee that meets when X12 meets for their trimester meetings (occurring in January/February, June, and September/October) to make decisions about additions, modifications, and retirement of existing reason codes.
- The RARC list and the CARC list are updated 3 times a year – in early March, July, and November.

Operational Impact

N/A

Reference Materials

The related MLN Matters® article can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6742.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR6742) regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1862CP.pdf> on the CMS website.