Internet Only Manual (IOM) Update to Pub. 100-04, Chapter 15 - Ambulance, to Restore Multiple Patients on One Trip Instructions

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Implementation Date: October 2, 2017

PROVIDER TYPE AFFECTED
This MLN Matters® Article is intended for providers and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for ambulance services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED
Change Request (CR) 10245 alerts providers that instructions in Section 30.1.2 of Chapter 15 – Ambulance, concerning “Multiple Patients on One Trip” were inadvertently omitted from the current version of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual. CR10245 restores the missing instructions to Section 30.1.2. Be aware that this CR10245 contains no policy changes but does update the manual section.

BACKGROUND
The omitted language that is being added back into the manual is as follows:

Ambulance suppliers submitting a claim using the ASC X12 professional format or the CMS-1500 paper form for an ambulance transport with more than one Medicare patient onboard must use the “GM” modifier (“Multiple Patients on One Ambulance Trip”) for each service line item. In addition, suppliers are required to submit documentation to A/B MACs (Part B) to specify the particulars of a multiple patient transport. The documentation must include the total number of patients transported in the vehicle at the same time and the health insurance claim numbers (HICN) for each Medicare beneficiary.

Ambulance claims submitted on or after January 1, 2011 in version 5010 of the ASC X12 837 professional claim format require the presence of a diagnosis code and the absence of diagnosis code will cause the ambulance claim to not be accepted into the claims processing system. The presence of a diagnosis code on an ambulance claim is not required as a condition of ambulance payment policy. The adjudicative process does not take into account the
presence (or absence) of a diagnosis code but a diagnosis code is required on the ASC X12 837 professional claim format.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**


If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Review-Contractor-Directory-Interactive-Map/.

**DOCUMENT HISTORY**

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<tr>
<th>Date of Change</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 1, 2017</td>
<td>Initial article released.</td>
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