



## Remittance Advice Remark Code (RARC), Claims Adjustment Reason Code (CARC), Medicare Remit Easy Print (MREP), and PC Print Update

MLN Matters Number: MM10270

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 10270

Related CR Release Date: November 9, 2017 Effective Date: April 1, 2018

Related CR Transmittal Number: R3910CP Implementation Date: April 2, 2018

### PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED

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This MLN Matters Article is intended for physicians, providers, and suppliers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

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Change Request (CR) 10270 updates the Remittance Advice Remark Codes (RARC) and Claims Adjustment Reason Code (CARC) lists and instructs Medicare Shared System Maintainers (SSMs) to update Medicare Remit Easy Print (MREP) and PC Print. Be sure your staffs are aware of these changes and obtain the updated MREP and PC Print software if they use that software.

### BACKGROUND

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The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1986 (HIPAA) instructs health plans to be able to conduct standard electronic transactions adopted under HIPAA using valid standard codes. Medicare policy states that CARCs and RARCs, as appropriate, which provide either supplemental explanation for a monetary adjustment or policy information that generally applies to the monetary adjustment, are required in the remittance advice and coordination of benefits transactions.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) instructs MACs to conduct updates based on the code update schedule that results in publication three times per year – around March 1, July 1, and November 1.

SSMs have the responsibility to implement code deactivation, making sure that any deactivated code is not used in original business messages and allowing the deactivated code in derivative messages. SSMs must make sure that Medicare does not report any deactivated code on or

after the effective date for deactivation as posted on the Washington Publishing Company (WPC) website. If any new or modified code has an effective date later than the implementation date specified in CR10270, MACs must implement on the date specified on the WPC website, available at: <http://wpc-edi.com/Reference/>.

A discrepancy between the dates may arise as the WPC website is only updated three times per year and may not match the CMS release schedule.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR10270, issued to your MAC regarding this change, is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2017Downloads/R3910CP.pdf>.

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

Date of Change	Description
November 13, 2017	Initial Article Released

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