



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

MLN Matters Number: MM10489

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 10489

Related CR Release Date: February 16, 2018 Effective Date: July 1, 2018

Related CR Transmittal Number: R3980CP Implementation Date: July 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) 10489 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 staff 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 1996 (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. This Recurring Update Notification applies to Chapter 22, Sections 40.5, 60.1, and 60.2 of the “Medicare Claims Processing Manual.”

The Shared System Maintainers (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 past the implementation date specified in CR 10489, 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. For this recurring CR, the MACs and the SSMs must get the complete list for both CARC and RARC from the WPC website to obtain the comprehensive lists for both code sets and determine the changes that are included on the code list since the last code update, CR 10270 (see MLN Matters article [MM10270](#)).

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, MM10489, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2018Downloads/R3980CP.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
February 16, 2018	Initial article released

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