



MLN Matters®



Information for Medicare Fee-For-Service Health Care Professionals

Related Change Request (CR) #: 3564

MLN Matters Number: MM3564

Related CR Release Date: January 21, 2005

Related CR Transmittal #: 439

Effective Date: July 1, 2005

Implementation Date: July 5, 2005

Modification to the Fiscal Intermediary Standard System (FISS) Regarding Ambulance Services Billed on 18x and 21x Types of Bill (TOB)

Note: This article was updated on February 16, 2013, to reflect current Web addresses. All other information remains unchanged.

Provider Types Affected

Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) and swing bed facilities billing Medicare Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs) for ambulance services

Provider Action Needed



STOP – Impact to You

Swing beds and SNFs should discontinue billing ambulance services on TOBs 18x and 21x.



CAUTION – What You Need to Know

This information in related CR 3564 supersedes Transmittal A-02-085, published September 11, 2002, effective January 1, 2003, and removes the ability of revenue code 054x to be accepted on TOBs 18x and 21x.



GO – What You Need to Do

Be aware of this correction and note that previously processed claims with revenue code 054x on TOBs 18x or 21x do not have to be reprocessed since no error in claims payment was made.

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This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

Background

CMS Transmittal A-02-085, a program memorandum published September 11, 2002 with an effective date of January 1, 2003, stated that ambulance services could be billed on TOBs 18x and 21x, though no separate payment could be made for such services, since TOBs 18x and 21x receive bundled payments under prospective payment systems.

Ambulance services billed on applicable institutional claims on line items using revenue code 054x are always funded through the Medicare Part B trust fund. It was discovered that ambulance services billed on 18x and 21x TOBs caused charges to be posted to the Provider Statistical and Reimbursement (PS&R) report incorrectly.

Additional Information

The official instruction issued to your intermediary (CR3564) regarding this change may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R439CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your FI on their toll-free number which can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

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